SECRET

F12-79-00

Chief, Personnel Security Division, OS 16 March 1971

Director, Domestic Contact Service
(Chief, Services Division)

WERBELL, Mitchell Livingston, III -- Revocation of DOD Security
#27636 Clearance/Recent Contact --
MIH-056-71

1. The information reported in the enclosed self-explanatory memorandum, regarding Subject's self-initiated contact with our Miami Field Office, may be of interest.

2. The Office of the General Counsel and WH Division have been apprised of Subject's recent activities.

3. Any questions pertaining to this memorandum should be directed to Mrs. Virginia Thorne, Ext. 2738.

SECURITY

WILLIAM J. VAUGHAN

Enclosure: As stated above

VThorne:grw

4.78

14-00000

SECRET

V. Thone

MIN-056-71

Director, Domestic Contact Service — 10 March 1971

ATTN : John McConnell
John Creany (OGC)
Chief, Miami Field Office

Mitchell Livingston Werbell, III

1. On 9 Mar 71 we received a long distance call, presumably from Powder Springs, Georgia, from subject, who is an old and unsavory contact of this office dating from 1959. Werbell has been involved in a variety of scrapes, the latest of which concerned an abortive invasion of Haiti which John Creany was very much concerned about a year or so ago.

2. Werbell stated that the Department of Defense had just revoked his security clearance on grounds of Werbell's "frivolous behavior" in the Haitian caper. Werbell stated that he intended to "fight it to the Supreme Court", as he had always kept us and other elements of the US Government informed concerning developments in the Haitian matter.

3. Werbell asked if there was anything that we could do for him in the way of interceding for him with the DOD, and we informed him bluntly and in no uncertain terms that he was strictly on his own, and we could do nothing for him. He then asked if it would be worthwhile to subpoena Bart Gonzales. We informed him that it was up to his attorney to make such recommendations.

4. Werbell seemed to get the message, and then offered to keep us advised regarding an alleged forthcoming attempt on Haiti which is being sponsored by Rolando Masferrer, even though Masferrer is currently incarcerated in a federal prison. We told Werbell that if he wished to pass any information along we would accept it but under no circumstances should he attempt to elicit any information on our behalf. He agreed that he would operate on this basis and said he might be in touch with us again.

5. In view of Werbell's record we felt that this latest contact should be a matter of record and that OGC should be informed of developments.

JUSTIN F. GLEICHAUF

JFG/esa

SECRET

448

SECRET

F12-79-00

Chief, Personnel Security Division, OS — 22 May 1969

Director, Domestic Contact Service
(Chief, Services Division)

WERBELL, Mitchell L. — Local OSI Inquiry to DCS Miami Office for
#27686 Information Concerning

MIM-084-69

1. The enclosed copy of memorandum from our Miami Office, regarding the OSI representative's inquiry for information concerning Subject, is forwarded for your records and possible future reference.

2. Any questions pertaining to this memorandum should be directed to Mrs. Virginia Thorne, Ext. 2738.

SECURITY

B. FRANK YOUNG

Enclosure: As stated above

VThorne:grw

4.47

GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

SECRET

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

SECRET

Memorandum

TO : Director, Domestic Contact Service

ATTN : [illegible]

DATE: 15 May 1969

MIM-084-69

FROM : Chief, Miami Field Office

SUBJECT: Local OSI Inquiry Regarding Information on Mitchell L. Werbell

1. On 15 May 1969, Special Agent Dave Ploumen, local OSI representative, USAF, visited the Miami Field Office to solicit any information we might have regarding Mitchell L. Werbell who apparently is undergoing a security clearance check as the result of presently being employed by a company with a government contract.

2. Werbell was an unsolicited contact of this office beginning in 1959 and he reached peak notoriety in November 1967 as a result of his involvement in the Rolando Masferrer trial in connection with the abortive Haitian invasion. John Greaney, OSG was in Miami at the time to oversee Agency interests.

3. Ploumen in contacting other US Government agencies locally including the US Attorney's Office somehow received an indication that CIA had information on Werbell; thus Ploumen's visit to the Miami Field Office.

4. It was indicated to Ploumen, who is known personally by several members of this staff, that we knew of Werbell and that on occasion he had reported unsolicited information. It was suggested, however, that Ploumen direct his request officially through channels via OSI's agency liaison officer in Washington.

5. This is for background and is being forwarded at the suggestion of local CIA Security.

SECURITY

JUSTIN F. GLEICHAUF

EHogan:paw

4.47

SECRET

[illegible stamp]

SECRET

Chief, Miami Field Office

22 May 1969

ATT : Mr. R. Hogan
Director, Domestic Contact Service (Services Division)

WERBELL, Mitchell L.

REF : MIA-084-69

Thank you for the information reported in the referent. The suggestion made by your office that OSI direct its request through official security channels is entirely correct. In the future, however, it will be helpful and appreciated if you will forward correspondence pertaining to security matters directly to the Security Liaison Officer, rather than to Support Staff. This saves time in getting the information to the appropriate channel for any action that may be indicated.

SECURITY

JAMES R. MURPHY

VThomas:grw

4.46

SECRET

GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic downgrading and declassification

-12-77-00

CONFIDENTIAL
(When Filled In)

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE : 5 July 1967

TO : Director, Domestic Contact Service

SUBJECT: WERBELL, Mitchell Livingston III

FILE NO: #27686 A107900

1. Reference is made to your request for security checks on the subject person as a source of intelligence information.

2. This is to inform you that the necessary checks have been completed with the following results:

a. [ ] No additional information has been obtained, except for such biographic information as indicated below or in the attachment.

b. [ ] Information has been received that Subject was investigated with favorable results in

c. [X] Certain information has been received and appears in the attachment which your Division will wish to consider in determining the extent and level of your use of Subject.

3. It is to be noted that our checks were made on the basis of the identifying information you furnished or in an attachment to this memorandum. Should it be disclosed that this information is erroneous or that Subject is known by a different name, this Division should be notified immediately.

WILLIAM R. KOTAPISH
Chief, Personnel Security Division

Attachment:
State Passport Report
Summary

RESTRICTED

EYES ONLY
#4227

4.45

FORM 1124a OBSOLETE PREVIOUS EDITIONS

CONFIDENTIAL

(9-67)

CONFIDENTIAL

WERBELL, Mitchell L.
#27 C86

26 April 1967

On 19 April 1967, the current passport file of Mitchell L. WERBELL was reviewed at the Passport Office, Departmentof State. The following is a summary of the information contained therein:

Birth: 8 March 1918 at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
(Verified by birth certificate)

PASSPORT ISSUED: At Miami, Florida, on 29 May 1962, Passport Number C-301433, for a two week trip to England and Germany for the purpose of business.

Residence: RD #1, Powder Springs, Georgia
Occupation: Public Relations and Advertising Executive.

SUBJECT's file also reveals that the Federal Bureau of Investigation has information pertaining to SUBJECT concerning his involvement in Haitian Revolutionary activities.

FSB/me

CONFIDENTIAL

4.45

S-E-C-R-E-T

DATE 31 July 1967

MEMORANDUM FOR : Chief, MIAMI FIELD OFFICE

FROM : Director, Domestic Contact Service
(Services Division)

SUBJECT : Security Check Completion -- US Citizen

REFERENCE : (a) DCS-R 10-30, dated 1 July 1965
(b) Operations Memo 88-64

1. Attached is a notice of security check completion on the individual listed below. The OS approved Subject's exploitation as a source of intelligence information, but the level of classified information which may be divulged is left to your discretion.

2. As indicated in the attachment, the OS provided a Summary of derogatory information for you to consider in determining the level of classified disclosure. It will be forwarded by Services Division by an "Eyes Only" memorandum which will bear a number identical to the one marked on the lower left corner of the completion. Please use this number to identify a Summary with an individual.

3. The OS directs that the field chief, after reading the information, will use it to establish the level of classified disclosure, if any, and to provide guidance to the Contact Specialist in his relations with the source. He may, at his discretion disclose the nature of the derogatory information to the Contact Specialist. The field chief, after making an appropriate notation in the open files of the office with respect to the security status of the individual, will then either destroy the information or place in a sealed envelope which will carry the caveat: "To be opened by the Chief or Acting Chief ---- Field Office."

JAMES R. MURPHY

Attachment:
WERBELL, MITCHELL Livingston, III

Eyes Only # 4227

Vlernejpat

CLASSIFICATION: "Restricted" -No Classified Info to be revealed. Check with Mr. Gleichauf before contacting.

Justin F. Gleichauf

GROUP I
Excluded from automatic downgrading and declassification

4.45

S-E-C-R-E-T

SECRET

F12.79-00

Chief, Personnel Security Division, OS | 21 February 1967

ATT : Mr. Leland Bunn
Director, Domestic Contact Service
(Chief, Services Division)

WERBELL, Mitchell L. -- Recent Telephone Call from Chet GRAY of Los Angeles re Possible Assasination in US of Close Relative of Middle East Ruler

A-127900

1. The enclosed copy of telstype from our Miami Field Office is forwarded for your information and immediate transmittal to the FBI.

2. Mr. John McConnell, of this Office, has discussed this matter with Mr. Sam Papich, FBI, who said the FBI will contact Subject and GRAY, and will subsequently advise us of any action they might want us to take.

3. Any questions pertaining to this memorandum should be directed to Mrs. Virginia Thorne, Ext. 2738.

SECURITY

B. FRANK YOUNG

Enclosure: Teletype Contacts/Miami-1710
dated 20 February 1967

VThorne:pat

4.44

SECRET

6857

CC - FBI Via OS

SECRET

Feb 20 11 58 AM '67

S E C R E T 201530Z CITE CONTACTS/MIAMI 1710

CONTACTS/WASHINGTON

ATTN: MCCONNELL

file

FROM: GLEICHAUF

1. WE HAVE RECEIVED A MOST UNUSUAL PHONE CALL FROM MITCHELL WERBELL, POWDER SPRINGS, GEORGIA, DETAILS OF WHICH FOLLOW.

2. WERBELL IS A SOLDIER OF FORTUNE TYPE WHO HAS BEEN IN OCCASIONAL CONTACT WITH THIS OFFICE, OF HIS OWN VOLITION, SINCE 1959. WHILE AN UNSAVORY CHARACTER, MUCH OF THE INFORMATION HE HAS FURNISHED HAS PROVED TRUE. HE FURNISHED COMPLETE DETAILS ON THE RECENT HAITIAN INVASION PLAN. THE PHONE CALL WAS RECEIVED BY BART GONZALES FROM HIM AT 1100 HOURS ON 18 FEBRUARY. HE STATED THAT HE HAD JUST HAD A TELEPHONE CALL FROM CHET GRAY OF LOS ANGELES, NO ADDRESS (PHONE 274-4922).

3. GRAY STATED THAT HE HAD BEEN APPROACHED REGARDING THE POSSIBLE ASSASSINATION IN THE U.S. OF A CLOSE RELATIVE, POSSIBLY A BROTHER OR SON, OF A MIDDLE-EAST RULER, WITHIN THE NEXT 10 DAYS. HE DID NOT FURNISH THE NAME OF THE ALLEGED VICTIM, NOR BY WHOM HE WAS APPROACHED. GRAY TOLD WERBELL THAT HE DID NOT WANT TO GET INVOLVED IN AN INCIDENT THAT MIGHT CAUSE INTERNATIONAL

4.44

SECURITY

PAGE 2 CONTACTS/MIAMI 1710 S E C R E T

REPERCUSSIONS AND ASKED WERBELL FOR ADVICE. WER[redacted]
BELL ADVISED GRAY TO INFORM THE FBI IN LOS ANGELES, BUT GRAY WAS RELUCTANT TO DO SO. WERBELL THEN ASKED GRAY IF HE WOULD BE WILLING TO TALK WITH A MEMBER OF CIA AND GRAY AGREED. WERBELL TOLD GRAY THAT IF A REPRESENTATIVE OF CIA CONTACTED HIM, WERBELL'S NAME WOULD BE USED AS ENTREE.

4. THE ABOVE SOUNDS LIKE SOMETHING OUT OF THE "ARABIAN NIGHTS," BUT I DID MEET A CHET GRAY FROM LOS ANGELES AT A LOCAL CONTACT'S HOUSE IN 1962, SOME DETAILS OF WHICH ARE CONTAINED IN OOA(S)5601 AND OOA(S) 5598 DATED 18 DEC 62. GRAY IS A NOTORIOUS HOODLUM AND MIGHT EASILY HAVE BEEN APPROACHED FOR SUCH PURPOSE.

5a. PLEASE HANDLE THE ABOVE AS YOU SEE FIT.

S E C R E T Sam Papich says

BT

FBI will Talk To Werbell and Gray - Will advise of any action They want us To Take

SECRET

GROUP 1 Excluded from automatic downgrading and declassification

14-00000

12-79-00

Chief, Personnel Security Division, OS 28 February 1967

ATT : Mr. Leland Bunn
Director, Domestic Contact Service
(Chief, Services Division)

WERBELL, Mitchell L. -- Communication from Chet GRAY re Alleged Assassination Attempt Against Foreign Diplomat -- FBI Interest

A127700

REF : DCS memorandum dated 21 February 1967, same subject

1. Please forward a copy of the enclosed self-explanatory Diary Item to Mr. Sam Papich. Mr. Papich was informed of this matter by phone on 23 February 1967.

2. Any questions pertaining to this memorandum should be directed to Mrs. Virginia Thorne, Ext. 2733.

SECRET

D. FRANK YOUNG

Enclosure: As stated above

CC: Mr. Sam Papich

4.43

VThorne:pat

14-00000

SECRET

DIARY, 23 February 1967

SUBJECT: Mitchell Werbell/Chet Gray

Gleichauf called to say that Werbell had heard from Gray both yesterday and the day before expressing concern over the fact that no one had contacted him concerning the alleged assassination attempt against a foreign diplomat. Gray stated that unless he heard from someone immediately he would go to the Governor of California, 23 February. This information was passed to Sam Papich by phone.

cc: Chief, Miami Office

JWMcConnell:mg

SECURITY

4.43

14-00000

Miami (Gonzales)
(Conant)

24 FEB 1967

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

BIOGRAPHIC DATA

NO. [illegible] 48269

1. SUBJECT'S LAST NAME – FIRST NAME – MIDDLE NAME: WERBELL, Mitchell L.

3. DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH: 8 March 1918-Philadelphia, Pa.

2. ALIASES: A 127900

4. SEX: Male

5. CITIZENSHIP: US

6. FULL NAME OF SPOUSE, DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH, CITIZENSHIP

7. RESIDENCES (Including No. and Street, Zone, R.F.D., etc.)

FROM	TO	COMPLETE ADDRESS
	Present	Powder Springs, Georgia

☐ CONTINUED

8. EMPLOYMENT

FROM	TO	NAME OF EMPLOYER	COMPLETE ADDRESS
	Present	Leader of Organization to Combat Communism	Powder Springs, Georgia
?	?	Alexis, Inc.	Atlanta, Georgia
?	?	Cool Roof of Georgia, Inc.	Atlanta, Georgia
?	?	Werbell-South, Inc.	Atlanta, Georgia

☐ CONTINUED

9. EDUCATION (High school, college, graduate work, etc.)

FROM	TO	NAME OF SCHOOL	DEGREE OR MAJOR

☐ CONTINUED

10. ADDITIONAL PERTINENT INFORMATION, INCLUDING FULL NAME, CITIZENSHIP DATA ON PARENTS AND CHILDREN.

27 FEB 1967

4.42

☐ CONTINUED

FORM 1-60 150 USE PREVIOUS EDITIONS
MFG. 10-63

14-00000

SECRET

A-12-79-00

MITCHEL L. WERBELL

Powder Springs, Georgia

BUSINESS:

4.41

14-00000

EIRS-0422/79

16 NOV 1979

MEMORANDUM FOR: Maurice A. Severn
Chief, PPL Group

ATTENTION: Lee E. Carle

FROM: George L. Marling
Chief, Operations Group

SUBJECT: Request for Records Search -- Robert John Morgan, et al. (U)

REFERENCE: OGC 79-08601 dated 20 September 1979

1. An intensive search of the files and indices of the Directorate of Operations has revealed no information concerning Robert John MORGAN, John Duncan LEIBOLT, Hubert Stewart COTTON, John Sylvester CARPENTER, Wayne Ernest DANIEL, or Guy Perilton OWEN. (U)

2. However, this search has revealed the following information concerning Wiley Gilmore SIMS (AKA: William Gilmore SIMMS) and Mitchell Livingston WERBELL III (AKA: Mitch THREE). (U)

A. William Gilmore SIMMS

1) In December 1966 SIMMS contacted the United States Embassy in Port of Spain, Trinidad, and talked to a representative of this Directorate. He requested assistance in retrieving an airplane impounded by authorities in Venezuela which they suspected was used in smuggling operations. SIMMS also stated that he had been in Guatemala looking for air freight business. The files of this Directorate contain no indication that any action was taken regarding this matter. (U)

2) SIMMS was never employed by this Directorate nor has this Directorate ever had any operational interest in him. (U)

B. Mitchell Livingston WERBELL III

1) WERBELL has never been employed by this Agency nor does this Agency have any operational interest in him. WERBELL was a commissioned officer with the OSS during World War II and served in the China-Burma-India

14-00000

theater. In August of 1959, this Agency considered using WERBELL as a source of information on revolutionary activities in the Caribbean area, particularly Cuba, but terminated its consideration of his possible use in October 1959 when it was determined that his information was of little value and it was suspected that he would use the proposed connection with this Agency to promote his personal interests. (S)

2) In 1973 WERBELL was under investigation by the United States Treasury Department Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms and by the United States Customs Service for activities relating to possible mercenary activities on Abaco Island in the Bahamas. In this connection, WERBELL contacted three retired CIA employees during 1974 in an attempt to involve them in a scheme concerning the activites of an organization called the Friends of Abaco (FOA) which advocated the secession of the island from the Commonwealth of the Bahamas. All three individuals reported their contact with WERBELL and sought guidance from this Agency. In May and June of 1974 they were advised to break all ties with WERBELL. On 27 June 1974 the Federal Bureau of Investigation was formally apprised of WERBELL'S overtures to the three retired CIA employees. (S)

3. It has been determined that Mitchell Livingston WERBELL III is the subject of PA request number P76-0028. There is no indication that Mitchell Livingston WERBELL III has ever been the subject of an FOIA request or that the remaining individuals listed in reference have ever been the subject of an FOIA or PA request. (U)

George L. Marling

George L. Marling

OG/EIR:DHess/CCreaner/ran:6347 (14Nov79)
BASED ON: 201-259910
FILE IN: 201-259910 Mitchell Livingston WERBELL III
Distribution:
Orig - Addressee w/ref.
1 - OG/EIR w/ref.
1 - OG/EIR Chrono

OGC 79-08601

20 September 1979

MEMORANDUM FOR: Associate Deputy Director for Administration
Attn: Chief, Security Analysis Group, OS
Associate Deputy Director for Science & Technology
Associate Deputy Director for Operations
Attn: ISA/DIP/IP/EIS
Thru: C/Reference Branch/ISS/IPG

FROM: John K. Greaney
General Counsel

SUBJECT: Request for Records Search -- Robert John Morgan, et al.

1. The Department of Justice is currently engaged in an investigation with state and federal law enforcement agencies concerning importation and distribution of marijuana and cocaine. Attached is a copy of the Department's letter to me requesting verification by CIA of any employment or other involvement with certain of the subjects of this investigation.

2. In order to respond to the Department's request, it would be appreciated if your offices could determine if there are any records on the subjects listed in the attached letter from the Justice Department.

John K. Greaney

Attachment

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20530

Address Reply to the Division Indicated and Refer to Initials and Number WLM:mas

Organized Crime Strike Force
Richard B. Russell Federal Bldg.
Post Office Box 543
Atlanta, Georgia 30303
September 17, 1979

Mr. John K. Greaney
Associate General Counsel
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Mr. Greaney:

It was a pleasure to meet with you and Clyde Carter last Monday.

As I explained to you at that time, we are engaged in an investigation with state and federal law enforcement agencies concerning importation and distribution of marijuana and cocaine. During the course of this investigation, allegations (unfounded, I am sure) have been made that certain of the subjects of this investigation are employees of the Central Intelligence Agency.

I believe it is necessary to resolve as much in advance of an indictment any problems which may arise should any of the subjects of the investigation be involved with the Central Intelligence Agency.

The following individuals are among the subjects of this investigation:

Robert John Morgan - DOB: 3/6/36
John Duncan LeBolt - DOB: 1/25/24
Hubert Stewart Cotton - DOB: 11/19/23
John Sylvester Carpenter - DOB: 1/27/35
Wiley Gilmore Sims - DOB: 11/5/18
Mitchell Livingston Werbell, III - DOB: 3/8/18
Wayne Ernest Daniel - DOB: 2/13/40
Guy Penilton Owen - DOB: 11/1/45

Please advise as soon as possible if indictment or continued investigation of these individuals will create problems for the Central Intelligence Agency.

Sincerely,

William L. McCulley
Special Attorney
U. S. Dept. of Justice

cc: Robert L. Keuche
Deputy Asst. Attorney General
Criminal Division

Gerard T. McGuire
Deputy Chief
Organized Crime & Racketeering Section
Criminal Division

14-00000

"CONFIDENTIAL"

FBI reports extracted from Werbell file (DCD):

(1) FBI report dated 6 August 1974 from Washington, FBI file (CI-3) 62-108665, SUBJECT: MITCHELL LIVINGSTON WERBELL, III, INTERNAL SECRUITY - ABACO, NEUTRALITY MATTERS - ABACO.

(2) FBI report dated 22 July 1974 from Atlanta, Georgia, no Bureau file, Subject: MITCHELL LIVINGSTON WERBELL, III.

"CONFIDENTIAL"

DCD-112/78
31 January 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR: DDO/ISS/IP/EIS

FROM : Ruth Elliff
DCD/FIO/PAO

SUBJECT : House Select Committee on Assassinations (HSCA) Request (OLC 77-5685/4)

REFERENCE : Your Memorandum, Same Subject, 28 December 1977

1. In response to referenced request, I am forwarding the following material from DCD files:

a. Dan Carswell -- one memorandum which may relate to the individual you requested.

b. Louis Posada -- negative.

c. Cesario Diosada -- copies of all material in DCD files.

d. Mitchell Livingston Werbell, III -- file A-12-79-00, containing all DCD material. This file is on loan and should be returned to DCD as soon as possible. PLEASE HAND CARRY.

e. David Atlee Phillips -- negative.

f. Lucien Conein -- one document. (This document was also furnished in response to Conein's request [P 77-0805] under the Privacy Act.)

g. William Stuckey -- negative.

h. Ed Butler -- copies of all material in DCD files.

E2 IMPDET CL BY 386090

14-00000

[redacted] [redacted]

DCD-112/78
31 January 1978

SUBJECT: House Select Committee on Assassinations (HSCA) Request (OLC 77-5685/4)

i. Priscilla Johnson McMillan -- DCD response to her request (P 76-1861) under the Privacy Act. Full text and sanitized copies of all this material should be available from IPS. Also attached are four intelligence information reports which were not furnished in response to the PA request.

j. Richard Snyder -- one memorandum which may relate to the individual in whom you are interested.

k. Alexis Davison -- negative.

2. I have made no attempt to sanitize this material. I understand that HSCA staff members who will be examining these documents are fully cleared, and will not be allowed to remove any of this material from our Headquarters, make any copies of this material, or make any notes therefrom that would reveal any material that is properly classified and deals with intelligence sources and methods. All of the attached material is for your retention <u>except</u> file A-12-79-00.

3. Please direct further inquiries about this matter to the undersigned on extension 3767.

Ruth Elliff
Ruth Elliff

Attachments a/s

RELLIFF:wfc
Distribution
Orig & 1 - Addressee, w/atts
1 - C/DCD, wo/atts
1 - C/Staff A, wo/atts
3 - RElliff
11 - Control

14-00000

Tran [illegible] — Werbell fired [illegible] from DEA — instrumental [illegible] demanded [illegible] on him available for review [illegible] him (July)

Julio stored in Miami —

Bust is suing us — He could be dragged into lawsuit — Works for Anderson

WPRC 3136292 27 July

A 8161

C O N F I D E N T I A L 092000Z SEP 76 STAFF

CITE DCD/MIAMI 13596

TO: PRIORITY DCD/HEADQUARTERS.

TO: OFFICE OF THE CHIEF (SPILMAN) FROM HENNESSEY

WNINTEL

SUBJ: FIELD OFFICE ASSISTANCE TO OGC

REF : SPILMAN/MAINWARING TELECON, 9 SEPTEMBER 1976, SAME SUBJECT

1. IN RESPONSE TO A TELEPHONE CALL FROM DEPUTY CHIEF, DCD, ON 23 AUGUST 1976, WE MADE HOTEL RESERVATIONS IN CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA, FOR WALTER LLOYD, OGC, FOR THE NIGHT OF 23 AUGUST. THE MIAMI FIELD OFFICE WAS HELD OPEN THAT EVENING FOR A MEETING ATTENDED BY MR. LLOYD, SAMUEL SHERES, US DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND WILLIAM WARNER, US DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION. JACK HENNESSEY, DCD/MIAMI, ALSO ATTENDED AND PROVIDED A SHORT GENERAL BRIEFING ON DCD OPERATIONS. FOR THE MOST PART, THE MEETING CONSISTED OF A DISCUSSION OF THE PAST RELATIONSHIP OF MITCHELL L. WERBELL III WITH BKHERALD, ESPECIALLY WITH DCD AS REVEALED IN THE DCD MEMORANDUM TO OGC DATED 8 MARCH 1976.

2. WE WERE ADVISED BY TELEPHONE DURING THE EVENING OF 27 AUGUST BY A. THOMANN, DCD DUTY OFFICER, AND SUBSEQUENTLY BY WALTER LLOYD, THAT LLOYD WOULD VISIT MIAMI AGAIN ON 30 AUGUST IN CONNECTION WITH THE WERBELL CASE. LLOYD DID NOT TASK DCD/MIAMI IN ANY WAY DURING THIS VISIT. HOWEVER, HE DID CHECK IN WITH US LOCALLY BY TELEPHONE UPON ARRIVAL IN THE MIAMI AREA. HE CALLED US AGAIN DURING THE EVENING OF 31 AUGUST AFTER HIS RETURN FLIGHT TO WASHINGTON, D.C., AS A COURTESY SINCE HE DID NOT HAVE THE TIME TO CONTACT US PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE FROM MIAMI.

3. MR. LLOYD AGAIN RETURNED TO MIAMI, THIS TIME ONBOARD A USAF JET STAR AIRCRAFT, EARLY ON THE MORNING OF 2 SEPTEMBER. HE CONTACTED US THAT AFTERNOON BY TELEPHONE TO REQUEST THAT WE KEEP OPEN THE FIELD OFFICE SO THAT HE COULD DEPOSIT CLASSIFIED FILES IN OUR VAULT OVERNIGHT. HE APPEARED AT THE FIELD OFFICE AT 1730 HOURS AND BRIEFED

US ON HIS TRAVEL OF THE DAY. HE PLACED TWO FOLDERS OF CLASSIFIED MATERIAL IN OUR VAULT FOR THE NIGHT, AND RECLAIMED THEM ON THE FOLLOWING MORNING, 3 SEPTEMBER. IN ADDITION TO MAKING WORKING SPACE AVAILABLE TO LLOYD FOR A COUPLE OF HOURS DURING THE MORNING OF 3 SEPTEMBER, WE MADE OURSELVES AVAILABLE FOR ANY FURTHER ASSISTANCE THAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN REQUIRED THAT DAY. HOWEVER, NOTHING FURTHER WAS REQUESTED OF US. THE LOCAL OS OFFICE PROVIDED AN ESCORT FOR LLOYD'S RETURN COMMERCIAL FLIGHT TO WASHINGTON LATER THAT AFTERNOON. LLOYD ADVISED US IN THE MEANTIME, HOWEVER, THAT THE LOCAL JUDGE HANDLING THE WERBELL CASE ASKED FOR LLOYD TO APPEAR IN MIAMI AGAIN DURING THE FOLLOWING WEEK, WHICH APPARENTLY BECAME UNNECESSARY SINCE WERBELL AND HIS CO-DEFENDANTS WERE ACQUITTED OF ALL CHARGES BY THE JURY ON 3 SEPTEMBER.

4. AFTER RECEIVING TWO OR THREE TELEPHONE CALLS FROM MR. SHERES, DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, MIAMI, ON 25 AUGUST, DURING WHICH HE ASKED FOR BKHERALD INFORMATION HELD IN BKHERALD HEADQUARTERS FILES, WE SUGGESTED THAT HE CALL LLOYD DIRECTLY AT HIS OGC OFFICE. WE BELIEVE THAT THE ATTEMPTED USE OF DCD/MIAMI AS A CHANNEL BY SHERES STEMMED FROM THE SEEMING (TO HIM) EXPEDIENT NATURE OF SUCH AN ARRANGEMENT AS MUCH AS FROM A BASIC MISUNDERSTANDING OF BKHERALD'S CHAIN OF COMMAND AND INFORMATION FLOW STRUCTURE. NEVERTHELESS, NO SUBSTANTIAL DIFFICULTIES DEVELOPED DURING THE VISITS TO DCD/MIAMI BY LLOYD.

E2 IMPDET CL BY 011668

C O N F I D E N T I A L

14-00000

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Watts

Attached is all the material DCD has on Werbel. He has been the subject of several communications between DCD's FIO/PIC staff and OGC and the FIO staff in the DDO.

Also attached is the microfilm records on ~~an~~ a Arnold A. Bayard. I don't think he is the Colonel Bayard referred to in the memo, but it is hard to tell since we don't have any bio data on him.

4.54

(DATE)

FORM NO. 101 REPLACES FORM 10-101 WHICH MAY BE USED.
1 AUG 54

(47)

14-00000

OGC 76-0844

24 February 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, SOG
Chief, DCD
Chief, LA Division

SUBJECT : Mitchell Livingston Werbel III

1. I was advised by the Justice Department on 23 February that Werbel has been indicted and the trial is scheduled to begin on 29 March in Miami, Florida. The charges relate to importing and distributing quantities of marijuana. With Werbel's propensity to raise his past affiliations with the Agency, we can anticipate problems during this trial. An additional problem is presented because Werbel is defended by Edwin Marger who was the defense attorney for John Hawk in the B-26 case in Buffalo, New York in 1966. It was Edwin Marger who subpoenaed the CIA General Counsel as a defense witness.

2. The Justice Department has received information that a person either currently or formerly affiliated with the CIA has been participating in Werbel's meetings with his attorney. It would be appreciated if all addressees could review their holdings on Werbel and determine if there is any validity to any recent contacts with him. I would urge that instructions be sent to Miami that no, repeat no, contact with Werbel take place between now and the beginning of the trial.

3. It would be helpful if each addressee could prepare a summary of the various contacts Werbel has had with CIA in the past. Please check to see if you have any information on a Colonel Bayard who was killed in Atlanta, Georgia during the summer of 1975. Bayard, reportedly an associate of Werbel's, had previous contacts with the Agency. It would be appreciated if your responses could be received by close of business 2 March.

John K. Greaney
John K. Greaney
Associate General Counsel

4.54

14-00000

A097764

ARNOLD A. BAYARD

1175 York Avenue
New York City, New York.

BUSINESS:

Subject is President with:

A097765 - M. L. Bayard Company, Inc., Philadelphia, Penna.

4.54

CONFIDENTIAL
(When Filled In)

F 92744

31 OCT 1961

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: [illegible] October 1961

TO: Chief, Contact Division, OO

FROM: Chief, Personnel Security Division, OS

SUBJECT: [illegible], Arnold A. - [illegible]

A 92744

1. Reference is made to your request for a security clearance on the subject person as a potential source of intelligence information. The necessary checks have been completed with the following results:

a. [ ] No additional information has been obtained, except for such biographic information as indicated below or in the attachment.

b. [XXX] Information has been received that Subject was investigated with favorable results in 19[illegible].

c. [ ] Certain information has been received and appears in the attachment which your Division will wish to consider in determining the extent and level of your use of Subject.

2. It is to be noted that our checks were made on the basis of the identifying information you furnished or as an attachment to this memorandum. Should it be disclosed that this information is erroneous or that Subject is known by a different name, this Division should be notified immediately.

[signature]

Chief, Personnel Security Division

[illegible]

9 Nov 1961

FORM NO. [illegible] 1159

CONFIDENTIAL

4.54

14-00000

[illegible] ([illegible])

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

BIOGRAPHIC DATA

1. SUBJECT'S LAST NAME - FIRST NAME - MIDDLE NAME: [illegible] Arnold A   92744

2. ALIASES:

3. DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH: 27 [illegible] 192[illegible] - [illegible], N. J.

4. SEX: [illegible]   5. CITIZENSHIP: [illegible]

6. FULL NAME OF SPOUSE, DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH, CITIZENSHIP:

7. RESIDENCES (Including No. and Street, Zone, R.F.D., etc.)

FROM	TO	COMPLETE ADDRESS
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible] [illegible] Avenue, New York City, N. Y.

8. EMPLOYMENT   CONTINUED

FROM	TO	NAME OF EMPLOYER	COMPLETE ADDRESS
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible] Company, Inc. ([illegible] since [illegible])	Philadelphia, Penna.

[illegible]

92745

9. EDUCATION   CONTINUED

FROM	TO	NAME OF SCHOOL	DEGREE OR MAJOR
[illegible]	[illegible]	Lehigh University	BS in Mechanical Engineering

10. [illegible]   CONTINUED

CONTINUED

[illegible]

Control

CONFIDENTIAL

3 March 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Washington
Chief, Miami

SUBJECT : Mitchell Livingston Werbell III

1. The attached memorandum was prepared for John Greaney, OGC, who requested a summary of our records on Mitchell L. Werbell III. Werbell is to be tried in March 1976 in Florida on a charge of importing narcotics. OGC anticipates that Werbell may claim some Agency connection because he has done so in the past. Greaney also asked about DCD connections with Colonel Bayard who is mentioned in paragraph 9 of the attached memorandum.

2. OGC has asked that there be no contact with Werbell at least until the trial is over. In view of Werbell's tendency to become involved in schemes with which the Agency cannot afford to be identified, I wish to extend indefinitely the OGC's injunction against contact with him.

JACKSON R. HORTON
Chief, Domestic Collection Division

Attachment: A/S

Distribution:
2 - Washington
2 - Miami
2 - DCD
1 - C/PEZ

DIEKER/kb

E2 IMPDET CL BY 038352

4.53

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

2 March 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: Office of General Counsel

ATTENTION : John K. Greaney

VIA : Deputy Director for Operations

SUBJECT : Mitchell Livingston Werbell III

REFERENCE : OGC 76-0344 dated 24 February 1976

1. A review of DCD records indicates that Mitchell L. Werbell III was an occasional contact and source of this Division from 24 July 1959, when he first initiated the contact, until March 1971. It appears from our records that all of the contacts were at Werbell's volition and that at no time was he viewed as a particularly useful or reliable source. Werbell did provide unsolicited information which was reported by DCD in seven foreign intelligence information reports. In January 1976 DCD responded to a Freedom of Information inquiry from Werbell. Copies of the documents released to him are available from the DDO/PIC.

2. After meeting with Werbell at his own request in July 1959 the Chief of the Miami Field Office noted in a Memorandum for the Record that little credence could be placed in anything Werbell said. During succeeding contacts Werbell provided information which resulted in the following reports:

a. Photographs of Camarioca Harbor, Cuba (1965)

b. Dope and arms running, Dominican Republic (1965)

c. Planned coup in Guatemala (1966)

d. Political, economic, military situation in Dominican Republic (1966)

e. Planned invasion of Haiti (1966)

f. Planned invasion of Haiti (1966)

g. Venezuelan request for arms (1967)

E2 IMPDET CL BY 010650

CONFIDENTIAL

4.53

12-99-00

FEB 27 10 47 AM '76

C O N F I D E N T I A L 271454Z FEB 76 STAFF

CITE DCD/WASHINGTON 13834

TO: PRIORITY DCD/MIAMI

MAINWARING FROM ZEIMER

12-99-00

SUBJECT: MITCHELL L. WERBELL, III

HAS MIAMI FIELD OFFICE HAD ANY CONTACT WITH WERBELL DURING PAST YEAR? WHEN WAS LAST CONTACT? E2 IMPDET CL BY 038552

C O N F I D E N T I A L

14-00000

C O N F I D E N T I A L 271600Z FEB 76 STAFF

CITE DCD/MIAMI 13136

TO: PRIORITY DCD/WASHINGTON

ATTN: OFFICE OF THE CHIEF (ZEIMER)

SUBJ: MITCHELL L. WERBELL, III

REF : DCD/WASHINGTON 13834.

WE HAVE HAD NO RECENT CONTACT WHATSOEVER WITH MITCHELL WERBELL, III. THE LAST CONTACT BY THIS OFFICE WAS A TELEPHONE CALL RECEIVED BY JAY GLEICHAUF ON 9 MARCH 1971 AND DISCUSSED IN MIM-056-71.
E2 IMPDET CL BY 011668
C O N F I D E N T I A L

FEB 27 1976

4.52

14-00000

12-99-00

FEB 26 3 34 PM '76

C O N F I D E N T I A L 262006Z FEB 76 STAFF

CITE DCD/WASHINGTON 13825

TO: PRIORITY DCD/MIAMI

FROM ZEIMER

12 99 00

SUBJECT: MITCHELL L. WERBELL III

JUSTICE DEPARTMENT HAS ADVISED OGC THAT SUBJECT HAS BEEN INDICTED AND TRIAL WILL BEGIN ON 29 MARCH 1976. THERE MUST BE NO REPEAT NO DCD CONTACT WITH WERBELL EVEN IF HE SHOULD ATTEMPT TO INITIATE THE CONTACT. E2 IMPDET CL BY 038552

C O N F I D E N T I A L

CONFIDENTIAL

22 January 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: DDO/PIC

ATTENTION : Hal Matter

SUBJECT : P 76-023 - Mitchell Livingston WerBell, III

1. DCD records reflect that Subject has been in contact with the Agency since 1959. The last record of contact with Subject was in March 1971.

2. The documents in DCD's file which pertain to Subject fit into the following categories:

a. CIA Office of Security namecheck data (OS File Number 27686)

One biographic data sheet is attached for release to Subject provided those portions marked with brackets are deleted from the released version.

b. Eighteen internal documents are attached and may be released to Subject provided those portions marked with brackets are deleted from the released versions. Deletions are based on exemptions (j) (1) (b), (j) (1) (d), (j) (1) (e), (j) (1) (f) and (k) (1).

c. Attached are two newspaper articles which pertain to Subject and which may be released to him.

d. DCD also has a document which reflects that Subject provided DCD with 36 black and white photographs taken of the Camarioca Harbor area of Cuba. DCD has neither the originals nor copies of these photographs although they may be retrievable from NPIC. Should Subject request that these photographs be returned to him, we would make every effort to surface them.

E 2 IMPDET CL BY 010650

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CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: P 76-023 - Mitchell Livingston WerBell, III

A copy of this document is attached and may be released to Subject provided those portions marked with brackets are deleted from the released version.

e. DCD also has two FR Division cables which pertain to Subject. One is from FR/Atlanta (00349) to Director, dated 11 July 1974. The other is to FR/New York (670514) from NE/ARG/I, dated 17 March 1975.

f. One FBI report (CI-3) 62-108665
DATE: 6 August 1974
TO: Director, CIA
FROM: Director, FBI
Washington, D.C.
SUBJECT: Mitchell Livingston Werbell, III

g. DCD has reference to a report on the Dominican Republic which Subject provided DCD in September 1966. DCD, however, does not have a copy of this document. A notation in our file indicates that the document was sent to OCI/WH/Dominican Desk. DCD records do not reflect the exact title, only that it is a report on the Dominican Republic.

h. Six internal DCD documents which may not be released to Subject. Copies are attached for your information. Denial is based on exemptions (j) (1) (b), (j) (1) (d) and (k) (1).

i. DCD suggests that in answering Subject's request he be informed that Agency records indicate that he willingly provided information that resulted in seven foreign intelligence information reports. Four of these reports received advance teletype dissemination. We suggest that Subject be informed that the Agency is reluctant to declassify and release the eleven documents via the mail as such an action would put them in the public domain. Should Subject insist on seeing the documents, DCD will consider sanitizing and showing them to him in the presence of an Agency representative.

j. DCD also has one memorandum for the record which concerns an OGC trace on Subject's sons, dated 18 April 1975. A copy of this document is attached

4.51

CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: P 76-028 - Mitchell Livingston WerBell, III

for your information. In light of paragraph one of OGC 75-4582, dated 10 December 1975, can we assume that this is not a record?

3. DCD suggests that a statement thanking Subject for his cooperation be included in the Agency's response to his request.

JACKSON R. HORTON
Chief, Domestic Collection Division

Attachments:
As stated

Distribution:
Orig. & 1 - Addressee
1 - Control
1 - DCD/Privacy
1 - OC/DCD
ro

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14-00000

24 FEB 1967

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

BIOGRAPHIC DATA

NO.

1. SUBJECT'S LAST NAME – FIRST NAME – MIDDLE NAME: WERBELL, Mitchell L.

2. ALIASES:

201-127900

3. DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH: 8 March 1918-Philadelphia, Pa.

4. SEX: Male

5. CITIZENSHIP: US

6. FULL NAME OF SPOUSE, DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH, CITIZENSHIP:

7. RESIDENCES (Including No. and Street, Zone, R.F.D., etc.)

FROM	TO	COMPLETE ADDRESS
	Present	Powder Springs, Georgia

☐ CONTINUED

8. EMPLOYMENT

FROM	TO	NAME OF EMPLOYER	COMPLETE ADDRESS
	Present	Leader of Organization to Combat Communism	Powder Springs, Georgia
?	?	Alexis, Inc.	Atlanta, Georgia
?	?	Cool Roof of Georgia, Inc.	Atlanta, Georgia
?	?	Werbell-South, Inc.	Atlanta, Georgia

☐ CONTINUED

9. EDUCATION (High school, college, graduate work, etc.)

FROM	TO	NAME OF SCHOOL	DEGREE OR MAJOR

☐ CONTINUED

10. ADDITIONAL PERTINENT INFORMATION, INCLUDING FULL NAME, CITIZENSHIP DATA ON PARENTS AND CHILDREN.

27 FEB 1967

451

☐ CONTINUED

FORM 1-63 150 USE PREVIOUS EDITIONS

SECRET

CIA INTERNAL USE ONLY

F-12-79-00

MIM-008-74

Chief, Domestic Collection Division
ATTN : Support Branch/OSS (Ryan/[illegible])

11 January 1974

Chief, Miami Field Office

Mitchell L. WerBell, III

REF : OSS-44-74, Dated 8 January 1974

Thank you for referent. For the record, subject has made no further effort to contact anyone in this office; similarly, we plan no attempts to get in touch with him. Thus the matter rests there at this writing. Should he call again, however, we will keep the advice contained in referent in mind in dealing with him.

BRUCE N. MAINWARING

BCM:mbj

CIA INTERNAL USE ONLY

SECRET

E 2 IMPDET CL BY 010650

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6

14-00000

CIA INTERNAL USE ONLY

F-12-79-00

Chief, Miami Field Office
ATTN : Mr. Bruce Mainwaring

OSS-44-74
8 January 1974

Chief, Domestic Collection Division (Support Branch/OSS)

Mitchell L. Werbell, III

1. We have reviewed subject's 201 file for additional information. Subject was of interest to this Agency in 1959 and was granted a POA in August of that year. This was cancelled in October 1959 when his information proved to be of little value and because it was suspected he was using Agency funds to promote his personal interests. He has subsequently attempted to pass himself off as an Agency employee. He is characterized by the file as unscrupulous, a "wheeler-dealer" and a promoter of grandiose schemes. The subject has been under investigation in 1973 by both the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms and the United States Customs Service for activities relating to possible mercenary activities in Abaco Island, Bahamas.

2. If the subject should contact your office again, we suggest you accept whatever information he has to offer but make no further commitments concerning Agency contact. Subject is well known to the appropriate desk and is of extremely doubtful character.

3. We trust this memorandum will provide you with useful information concerning this subject. Thank you for bringing his name to our attention.

JACKSON R. HORTON

SPRyan for EBAmes/b
cc: Services Br. (Control)
IP Files

FILE: MM-25819

E-2 IMPDET CL BY 010830

CIA INTERNAL USE ONLY

12-19-00

Chief, Washington Field Office

12 July 1972

Director, Domestic Contact Service (00)

A-168946

A-168762

[illegible] Hanferty Jr., Military Armament Corporation, Powder Springs, [illegible]

REF : [illegible] Hopper/[illegible] telecon

A-127900

1. Attached for reference telephone conversation is copy of [illegible] report of [illegible] Military Armament Corporation, headquartered in Powder Springs, Georgia [illegible] Mitchell [illegible] Mitchell, III. [illegible] is a former [illegible] (CIA) [illegible] to this writer [illegible] during WWII.

2. [illegible] will [illegible] have [illegible] He is [illegible] and perpetual financial difficulties.

3. [illegible] in [illegible] We do not [illegible] to [illegible] Mitchell. [illegible] of [illegible] and possible information of operational significance.

4. If we can be of further assistance in this matter, please advise.

Attachment

[illegible]/lld

cc: Services Division (Control)

FILED: [illegible] 23000

JAMES R. MURPHY

[illegible]

AUTOMATICALLY DECLASSIFIED ON APPROVAL OF DCI

[illegible]

4.57

SECRET

I 12-79-00

Chief, Personnel Security Division, OS — 16 March 1971

Director, Domestic Contact Service
(Chief, Services Division)

[illegible], Mitchell Livingston, III — [illegible] of DOD Security Clearance/Recent Contact —
[illegible]
[illegible]

1. The information reported in the enclosed self-explanatory memorandum, regarding Subject's self-initiated contact with the Miami Field Office, may be of interest.

2. The Office of the General Counsel and WH Division have been apprised of Subject's recent activities.

3. Any questions pertaining to this memorandum should be directed to Mrs. Virginia Thorne, Ext. [illegible].

SECURITY

WILLIAM J. VAUGHAN

Enclosure: As stated above

VThorne:grv

4.51

14-00000

OCC (John Greany)

F 12.77.00

SECRET

MIM-056-71

10 March 1971

Director, Domestic Contact Service
ATTN : John McConnell
John Greany (OCC)
Chief, Miami Field Office

(B)

Mitchell Livingston Werbell, III

1. On 9 Mar 71 we received a long distance call, presumably from Powder Springs, Georgia, from subject, who is an old and unsavory contact of this office dating from 1959. Werbell has been involved in a variety of escapades, the latest of which concerned an abortive invasion of Haiti which John Greany was very much concerned about a year or so ago.

2. Werbell stated that the Department of Defense had just revoked his security clearance on grounds of Werbell's "frivolous behavior" in the Haitian caper. Werbell stated that he intended to "fight it to the Supreme Court", as he had always kept us and other elements of the US Government informed concerning developments in the Haitian matter.

3. Werbell asked if there was anything that we could do for him in the way of interceding for him with the DOD, and we informed him bluntly and in no uncertain terms that he was strictly on his own, and we could do nothing for him. He then asked if it would be worthwhile to subpoena Bart Gonzales. We informed him that it was up to his attorney to make such recommendations.

4. Werbell seemed to get the message, and then offered to keep us advised regarding an alleged forthcoming attempt on Haiti which is being sponsored by Rolando Masferrer, even though Masferrer is currently incarcerated in a Federal prison. We told Werbell that if he wished to pass any information along we would accept it but under no circumstances should he attempt to elicit any information on our behalf. He agreed that he would operate on this basis and said he might be in touch with us again.

5. In view of Werbell's record we felt that this latest contact should be a matter of record and that OCC should be informed of developments.

JUSTIN F. GLEICHAUF

JFG/css

cc: V Thome - 3/15

SECRET

4.51

C O N F I D E N T I A L 031539Z DEC 69 CITE CONTACTS/WASHINGTON 24[illegible]

CONTACTS/MIAMI

FROM MCCONNELL

JOHN GREANEY, OGC, WILL BE COMING TO MIAMI MONDAY, 8 DECEMBER, IN CONNECTION WITH THE TRIAL OF THE EIGHT INDIVIDUALS ALLEGEDLY INVOLVED IN THE BOMBING OF PORT-AU-PRINCE.

D A127700

NEW SUBJECT: MITCHELL LIVINGSTON WERBELL OF ATLANTA IS MENTIONED IN A (WASHINGTON POST) ARTICLE TODAY IN CONNECTION WITH ALLEGED RECEIPT OF GUNS SHIPPED FROM VIETNAM THROUGH EGLIN AIR FORCE BASE. MR. GREANEY SUGGESTS THAT YOU AVOID, IF POSSIBLE, ANY CONTACT WITH WERBELL.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

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F-12-79-00

CONFIDENTIAL

Director, Domestic Contact Service
ATTN : John McConnell

31 March 1967
MIM - 028-67

Chief, Miami Field Office

Mitchell L. WerBell A 127900

Think you will be interested in the attached clippings, which indicate that all charges have been dropped against WerBell.
Please pass to John Greaney, Office of General Counsel.

JUSTIN F. GLEICHAUF

JFG:sb
Enclosures

4.51

F-12-79-00

Miami ~~Maxid~~ Herald

24 March 1967

att to Mem 098-27 dated 31 Mar 67, Sub: Mitchell & Hamill

4.51

14-00000

CONFIDENTIAL F-12-79-00

Director, Domestic Contact Service 24 March 1967

ATTN : John McConnell MIM-036-67

Chief, Miami Field Office

Mitchell L. WerBell A 127900

REF : MIM-060-67

1. WerBell called the Miami office on 23 Mar 67 and when told that Bart Gonzalez was not in, advised the secretary that the Federal charges against him had been dropped. We have not confirmed this. We do not intend to renew our contacts with him for the time being at least.

2. Please advise John Greaney of the Office of the General Counsel of this development and give us whatever recommendations he or you may have as to our future relations with WerBell.

JUSTIN F. GLEICHAUF

BIG:pw

4.51

CONFIDENTIAL

GROUP 1 Excluded from automatic downgrading and declassification

CONFIDENTIAL

E-12-79-00

Director, Domestic Contact Service

2 March 1967

ATTN : John McConnell

MDM-060-67

Chief, Miami Field Office

Mitchell L. WerBell A-127900

1. You will recall that John Greaney of the Office of General Counsel was in Miami for several days in connection with the federal case pending against subject. WerBell was indicted on federal conspiracy charges growing out of the abortive invasion attempt of Haiti a short time ago.

2. Following the indictment WerBell called us and indicated that he was to be interviewed on "nationwide TV through station WSB-TV in Atlanta." We called Harry McCrea and asked him to monitor local coverage, and we covered the NBC stations for a period of several days. WerBell did not appear on a national hookup, but Harry McCrea informed us that he did appear on a two-minute taped segment on the WSB-TV, 6:25 A.M. telecast only. WerBell said he would, if he could, "make a citizen's arrest of Dwight Eisenhower, John McCone, et al, because he did no more than they did." Harry said that he didn't believe that the station took his statement seriously.

3. WerBell was also interviewed by "The Atlanta Constitution", and we are enclosing a clipping from the "Constitution" of 28 Feb 67 in which WerBell is quoted concerning the indictment.

4. Would you please pass the above to John Greaney. You might inform him that the statement of an undesignated federal official in Miami undoubtedly refers to the Customs agent in charge, with whom WerBell had a conversation prior to calling us. WerBell quoted him in the same fashion in our conversation. We have had no further contact with WerBell.

JUSTIN F. GLEICHAUF

JFG:pw

Enclosure:
As stated

4.51

CONFIDENTIAL

F-12-79-00

SECRET

S E C R E T 231432Z CITE CONTACTS/MIAMI 1714

CONTACTS/WASHINGTON

ATTN: JOHN MCCONNELL

SUBJECT: ALLEGED ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT

REF: A. MIAMI 1710 A-12 7900

B. MC CONNELL/CLEICHAUF TELCONS OF 21 FEB AND 23 FEB 67

MITCHELL WER BELL CALLED BART GONZALES YESTERDAY TO ADVISE THAT HE HAD RECEIVED TWO PHONE CALLS FROM CHET GRAY EXPRESSING CONCERN OVER THE FACT THAT NO ONE HAD CONTACTED HIM FOR DETAILS CONCERNING THE ALLEGED ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT REFERRED TO IN B-67-54 MIAMI 1710. GRAY STATED THAT UNLESS HE HEARD FROM SOMEBODY IMMEDIATELY, HE WOULD TAKE HIS INFORMATION TO THE GOVERNOR OF CALIFORNIA ON THE MORNING OF 23 FEB 67. WE CURRENTLY HAVE AN ADDRESS FOR GRAY: 324 NORTH OAKHURST DRIVE, BEVERLY HILLS; TELE: 274-4922.

SECRET

FEB 23 [illegible]

Copy F/# B-67-54 (Chet Gray)

1/

4.51

18-77-03

Chief, Personnel Security Division, OS — 24 February 1967

ATT : Mr. Leland Dunn
Director, Domestic Contact Service
(Chief, Services Division)

[illegible], Mitchell L. -- Communication from [illegible] re Alleged Assassination [illegible] Foreign Diplomat -- [illegible] Interest

A1,27100

REF : DCS memorandum dated 21 February 1967, same subject

1. Please forward a copy of the enclosed self-explanatory Diary item to Mr. [illegible] Popich. Mr. Popich was informed of this matter by phone on 23 February 1967.

2. Any questions pertaining to this [illegible] should be directed to Mrs. Virginia Thorne, Ext. [illegible]

R. FRANK [illegible]

Enclosure: As stated above

CC: Mr. [illegible] Popich

VThorne:pat

4.51

Contact

F-12-79-00

SECRET

DIARY, 23 February 1967

SUBJECT: Mitchell Werbell/Chet Gray

A-127900 B-67-54

Gleichauf called to say that Werbell had heard from Gray both yesterday and the day before expressing concern over the fact that no one had contacted him concerning the alleged assassination attempt against a foreign diplomat. Gray stated that unless he heard from someone immediately he would go to the Governor of California, 23 February. This information was passed to Sam Papich by phone.

B-67-41

cc: Chief, Miami Office

JMcConnell:zg

Copies of all jackets!

4.51

SECRET

[illegible]/2.77-0[illegible]

Chief, Personnel Security Division, OS 21 February 1967

ATT : Mr. Leland Runa
Director, Domestic Contact Service
(Chief, Services Division)

WERELL, Mitchell L. -- Recent Telephone Call from Chet GRAY of Los Angeles re Possible Assassination in US of Close Relative of Middle East Ruler

A-127900

1. The enclosed copy of teletype from our Miami Field Office is forwarded for your information and immediate transmittal to the FBI.

2. Mr. John McConnell, of this Office, has discussed this matter with Mr. Sam Papich, FBI, who said the FBI will contact Subject and GRAY, and will subsequently advise us of any action they might want us to take.

3. Any questions pertaining to this memorandum should be directed to Mrs. Virginia Thorne, Ext. 2733.

SECRET

B. FRANK YOUNG

Enclosure: Teletype Contacts/Miami-1710
dated 20 February 1967

VThorne:pat

4.51

14-00000

Law Offices
of
Edwin Marger

P 76-028 LOB

Edwin Marger (Fla. & Ga.)
Reid Kennedy (Ga. & Ga.)
Richard A. Garcia
Robert O. Davies
Donald B. Walker
Nancy L. Finkel

Allen J. Hall (Fla. & Ga.)
of Counsel

Telephone 256-4284
Area Code (404)

Suite 320
6666 Powers Ferry Road
Atlanta, Georgia 30339

December 30, 1975

Gene F. Wilson,
Information and Privacy Coordinator
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your letter of December 18th, 1975 concerning our client, Mitchell Livingston WerBell, III and his request for information under the Freedom of Information Act.

I am enclosing a notarized statement providing you with the address and place of birth of Mr. WerBell.

With regard to your last paragraph asking for clarification as to which records he desires to have searched, we, of course, are not familiar with your files or filing system. Mr. WerBell spent sometime in the United States Army during World War II and has traveled extensively since that time. He was in Cuba at the time of the Castro military operation, in the Dominican Republic during that military operation and in Thailand and Viet Nam during the Viet Nam War. We feel quite confident your office must have extensive files and documentation concerning Mr. WerBell and this request for information is intended to

HH's
21970

4.47

Gene F. Wilson
December 30, 1975
Page Two

cover all information contained in the files of your agency.

Should any of the matter contained in your files have a security clearance classification that would preclude its dissemination, we would appreciate being notified that the information exists.

We would appreciate your early attention to the foregoing.

Very truly yours,

Reid Kennedy

RK:dcn
Enclosure (1)

4.49

14-00000

AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF GEORGIA:
SS
COUNTY OF FULTON:

I, MITCHELL LIVINGSTON WERBELL, III, after first being duly sworn, do hereby, under oath, depose and say that my current address is 4321 MacLand Dallas Road, Powder Springs, Georgia, 37007. Further, that I was born on March 8, 1918, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

I further swear and affirm that I am the same MITCHELL LIVINGSTON WERBELL, III, whose signature appears below and that I am the same person who is making the request for release of information.

MITCHELL LIVINGSTON WERBELL, III

Sworn to and Subscribed before me, Notary Public, on the 31st day of December, 1975.

Notary Public, Georgia State at Large

My Commission expires:

E-12-79-00

SECRET

FEB 20 11 53 AM [illegible]

S E C R E T 221933Z CITE CONTACTS/MIAMI 1710

CONTACTS/WASHINGTON

ATTN: MCCONNELL

FROM: GLEICHAUF

A 127900

1. WE HAVE RECEIVED A MOST UNUSUAL PHONE CALL FROM MITCHELL WERBELL, POWDER SPRINGS, GEORGIA, DETAILS OF WHICH FOLLOW:

2. WERBELL IS A SOLDIER OF FORTUNE TYPE WHO HAS BEEN IN OCCASIONAL CONTACT WITH THIS OFFICE, OF HIS OWN VOLITION, SINCE 1959. WHILE AN UNSAVORY CHARACTER, MUCH OF THE INFORMATION HE HAS FURNISHED HAS PROVED TRUE. HE FURNISHED COMPLETE DETAILS ON THE RECENT HAITIAN INVASION PLAN. THE PHONE CALL WAS RECEIVED BY BART GONZALES FROM HIM AT [illegible] HOURS ON [illegible] FEBRUARY. HE STATED THAT HE HAD JUST HAD A TELEPHONE CALL FROM CHET GRAY OF LOS ANGELES, NO ADDRESS (PHONE 274-[illegible]).

Gray B-67-57

3. GRAY STATED THAT HE HAD BEEN APPROACHED REGARDING THE POSSIBLE ASSASSINATION IN THE U.S. OF A CLOSE RELATIVE, POSSIBLY A BROTHER OR SON, OF A MIDDLE-EAST RULER, WITHIN THE NEXT 10 DAYS. HE DID NOT FURNISH THE NAME OF THE ALLEGED VICTIM, NOR BY WHOM HE WAS APPROACHED. GRAY TOLD WERBELL THAT HE DID NOT WANT TO GET INVOLVED IN AN INCIDENT THAT MIGHT CAUSE INTERNATIONAL

FI # B-67-57 (Chet Gray)

4,57

14-00000

PAGE 2 CONTACTS/MIAMI 1710 S E C R E T

REPERCUSSIONS AND ASKED VERBELL FOR ADVICE. WER

BELL ADVISED GRAY

TO INFORM THE FBI IN LOS ANGELES, BUT GRAY WAS RELUCTANT TO DO SO. VERBELL THEN ASKED GRAY IF HE WOULD BE WILLING TO TALK WITH A MEMBER OF CIA AND GRAY AGREED. VERBELL TOLD GRAY THAT IF A REPRESENTATIVE OF CIA CONTACTED HIM, VERBELL'S NAME WOULD BE USED AS ENTREE.

4. THE ABOVE SOUNDS LIKE SOMETHING OUT OF THE "ARABIAN NIGHTS," BUT I DID MEET A CHET GRAY FROM LOS ANGELES AT A LOCAL CONTACT'S HOUSE IN 1962, SOME DETAILS OF WHICH ARE CONTAINED IN COA(S)5601 AND COA(S) 5594 DATED 18 DEC 62. GRAY IS A NOTORIOUS HOODLUM AND MIGHT EASILY HAVE BEEN APPROACHED FOR SUCH PURPOSE.

5. PLEASE HANDLE THE ABOVE AS YOU SEE FIT.

S E C R E T

BT

4.51

PRIORITY VA CITE [illegible] 1265.

ATTN: MC CONNELL

SUBJECT: RUMORED ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT ON FIDEL CASTRO

REF: MIA 677-65 OF 17 DEC 65 (A 127902)

1. MITCHELL WERBELL ADVISED BART GONZALES THAT A GROUP OF SIX MEN IN HIS ORGANIZATION HAS PENETRATED CUBA AND IS CURRENTLY IN THE VARADERO/HAVANA AREA. PRINCIPAL PURPOSE IS ASSASSINATION OF FIDEL CASTRO TO BE ATTEMPTED [illegible] 9 JANUARY. IF FOUND NOT POSSIBLE, SECONDARY TARGET WILL BE TO BLOW UP THE ELECTRIC PLANT FURNISHING ELECTRICITY TO HAVANA.

2. THE GROUP IS TO USE AN AIRPLANE MODEL TYPE OF RADIO DETONATOR. THEY WERE UNABLE TO PROCURE CONTROLLED FREQUENCY RADIO DETONATORS WHICH WERE PREFERRED BECAUSE OF HIGHER QUALITY. THE DETONATOR ALLEGEDLY WILL BE THROWN AT CASTRO OR THEY WILL USE SUB-MACHINE GUNS IN THE COURSE OF A PUBLIC APPEARANCE BY CASTRO. NO INDICATION AS TO HOW THEY KNOW WHEN OR WHERE HE WILL APPEAR. GROUP SAID TO KNOW MISSION IS SUICIDAL.

3. ATTEMPT ON THE ELECTRIC PLANT WILL BE TO KILL GUARDS AND PENETRATE AREA FOLLOWING WHICH THEY WILL BLOW UP KEY EQUIPMENT.

4. WERBELL SAID THAT [illegible] ALSO ALLEGEDLY HAS A GROUP IN CUBA AT PRESENT FOR THE PURPOSE OF ASSASSINATING FIDEL CASTRO.

5. PLEASE HANDLE ABOVE AS YOU SEE FIT. FYI: WERBELL IS A NOTORIOUS CON MAN AND A SOLDIER OF FORTUNE TYPE. HE IS CONSIDERED UNRELIABLE.

~~SECRET~~

CFN 1265 MC CONNELL FIDEL CASTRO MIA 677 65 17 DEC 65 MITCHELL WERBELL BART GONZALES [illegible] CUBA VARADERO HAVANA [illegible] 9 JANUARY NOT POSSIBLE UNABLE TO [illegible] NO INDICATION [illegible] FYI [illegible] CON CONSIDERED UNRELIABLE

BT

4.51

14-00000

CONFIDENTIAL

Chief, Contact Division
ATTN : Index Branch

27 July 1959

Chief, Miami Field Office

Memorandum of Visit to Mitchell Warbell III
2211 Segovia Circle
Coral Gables, Florida

1. In the evening of 24 July 1959 I received a telephone call from subject, who had been given my name and address by another segment of the intelligence community in connection with the possibility of his passing along late information concerning the rumored impending flight of Batista to the US.

2. Warbell indicated that he spent a great amount of his time in the Dominican Republic and had extremely close association with leaders of the government, and also with General Jose Pedraza. He claimed to have been a former member of the OSS with service in China in WWII. Warbell is a soldier-of-fortune type who wears a monocle, drives a Mercedes-Benz, sports a most attractive blonde girl friend, and is a Big Spender. He also volunteered that he has a wife and six children living in Georgia.

3. Warbell told me that his principle source of income is in dealing with Cuban pesos, and said that he is associated in the business with a John Lipko of Los Angeles, a jazz musician who formerly played with the Jimmy Dorsey and Jan Garber bands.

4. Lipko also claims to have been a member of OSS during WWII, serving in the Rumanian and Eastern European area. Lipko was busily engaged in making long distance phone calls to Mexico City, Guatemala City, and Los Angeles during a part of the time I was with the group.

5. Warbell gave me some information on Batista's plans, which is basically supposition, and furnished some other marginal information which is being forwarded, although in my opinion little credence can be placed in anything he says. It is hard to evaluate what Warbell's motives are in connection with his desire to furnish information regarding Batista to us, but it appeared that he was also attempting to fish for information, throwing out a number of questions concerning the Biltmore Terrace Hotel, reportedly recently to have been purchased by Cuban interests with 9 million Cuban pesos. The penthouse reportedly has been completely redecorated, with heavy steel doors guarding the entrance. This penthouse suite has been rumored to be Batista's intended headquarters once he arrives in the US. All of this has been written about in the gossip columns of the local papers.

6. Inasmuch as Warbell has my name and phone number, probably little can be done to prevent him getting in touch with me from time to time, but contact will not be initiated by me except by direction. The basic purpose of this memo is for the record.

JUSTIN F. GLEICHAUF

JFG:cm

CONFIDENTIAL

The Atlanta Journal
Covers Dixie Like the Dew
Since 1883
James M. Cox, Chairman 1939-1957—James M. Cox Jr., Chairman 1957-1974
Jack Tarver, President • Jack Spalding, Editor
22-A ★★★★★ APRIL 9, 1975

The Need for MARTOC

THE POSSIBILITIES of MARTA for both good and bad are tremendous. On the good side the area needs a rapid and economical transportation system. The area also needs a big construction project.

When MARTA was established it was apparent that the good it would bring was balanced by the tremendous possibilities for patronage and featherbedding. So a committee was established by the General Assembly to oversee MARTA and it was called MARTOC.

The area needs MARTA but it now needs MARTOC as never before.

Labor contract time is coming up for MARTA and upon its outcome rides the fate of the 15-cent fare. The chairman of MARTA's board is John Wright, a labor man, and we have faith in Mr. Wright's [illegible] that he would [illegible] still we're happy that [illegible] be watching. MARTA [illegible] into problems delaying [illegible] tion of its rail system. [illegible] with consummation of [illegible] other with the [illegible] ther is insurmountable but [illegible] mean more delay, more [illegible] more wondering [illegible] ciency of the operation.

MARTA's board is [illegible] the handling of these [illegible] today's board isn't as [illegible] yesterday's. We're happy [illegible] around to backstop and [illegible] committee is aware of [illegible] duties here.

~~Which Domino Is Next~~

4.51

C

F12-79-00

18 April 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Werbell

1. On 17 April 1975, Annet, DDO/FIO, called DCD on the green line to relay the following OGC priority request.

Please check Agency records for:

a. Mitchell Werbell, IV
DPOB: 16 November 1949; Atlanta, Georgia

b. Godfrey Werbell
DPOB: 21 June 1951; Atlanta, Georgia

These two have been charged with crimes... alleged they work for CIA.

2. After checking DCD's records I found that DCD has had contact with Subject's father in the past. DCD's records reflect no direct contact with the sons. The only mention of the sons appears in an article published in The Washington Post, 27 December 1970, Section D, page 3 and a cable to FR/NY, 17 March 1975 (Director 670514).

3. DDO/FIO was notified of the above by telephone on 17 April 1975.

Rose O'Toole

Distribution:
Orig. - A 127900
1 - DCD/FOIA
1 - OC/DCD

11.40

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Control

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STAFF 191757Z DIRECTOR 670514

CONF: NE 10 INFO: FILE 11/AH FR5, DCD2 LSN/10 C/OPS LA10

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TO: FR/NEW YORK. Y

AJAJA FORRES Y

REF: FR/NEW YORK 30417 (IN 511214) Y

1. NO ADDITIONAL HQS TRACES ON EDGAR LEMMENS AND CO. OTHER THAN CONFIRMATION THAT IT LICENSED DEALER OF ARMS LOCATED IN/ TIRLEMONT, [redacted] - BELGIUM AND THAT IT IMPORTED FROM NEW YORK TO BELGIUM A SILENT SUB-MACHINE GUN WHICH LATER SHOWED UP IN SPAIN CONNECTED WITH BASQUE ASSASSINATION. Y

12 7900

2. MICHELL L. WERBELL, III (201-259910) IS PARTNER OF DEFENSE SYSTEMS INTERNATIONAL INC. OF POWDER SPRINGS, GEORGIA, A LICENSED ARMS DEALER. HE BORN 8 MAR 1918, PHILADELPHIA. HQS HAS LENGTHY 201 ON WERBELL WHO HAS LONG HISTORY POPPING UP IN AREAS AND SITUATIONS WHERE CAN MAKE FEW FAST BUCKS. HE CHARACTERIZED AS UNSCRUPULOUS, WHEELER-DEALER AND PROMOTER OF GRANDIOSE SCHEMES. HE OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST IN MID-1959 WHEN BECAME INVOLVED WITH ANTI-CASTRO PLOTTERS IN DOMINICAN REPUBLIC AND OFFERED PROVIDE BKHERALD WITH INFO ON REVOLUTIONARY ACTIVITIES IN CARIBBEAN. HE GRANTED POA IN AUGUST 1959 BUT THIS CANCELLED OCTOBER 1959 WHEN HIS INFO PROVED BE OF

DATE:
ORIG:
UNIT:
EXT:

4.39

RELEASING OFFICER COORDINATING OFFICERS AUTHENTICATING OFFICER

E 2 IMPDET
CL BY:

SECRET

SIGNAL CENTER USE ONLY

OMF 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 PAGE 2 OF

CLASSIFICATION

S E C R E T

MESSAGE HANDLING INDICATOR — DATE-TIME GROUP — CITE — MESSAGE REFERENCE NUMBER

STAFF DIRECTOR

CONF: INFO: FILE

670514

0 INDEX DISSEM BY:
0 NO INDEX
0 RETURN TO PER
0 IP FILES #

LITTLE VALUE AND IT SUSPECTED THAT HE USING BKHERALD@ FUNDS TO PROMOTE PERSONAL INTERESTS. EVER SINCE, BKHERALD HAS BEEN DIS- CLAIMING WERBELL WHO HAS REPEATEDLY ATTEMPTED PROMOTE SELF AS REP OF LNBUZZ AND BKHERALD. SINCE MUCH OF BKHERALD INFO ON WERBELL ORIGINATES LNERGO, WE SUGGEST LNERGO REP/NEW YORK PERFORM TRACE THROUGH HIS OFFICIAL CHANNEL. (ABOVE INFO MAY NOT BE PASSED FOREIGN NATIONALS BECAUSE WERBELL WODUAL CITIZEN.) Y

3. ONLY TRACE ON MITCHELL WERBELL IV IS THAT HE ALSO INVOLVED IN/FATHER'S [illegible] ARMS BUSINESS TRADE. HE HAS HAD NO CONNECTION WITH BKHERALD. Y

4. FILE: 201-918287, E2 IMPDET.

DATE: 17 MARCH 1975
ORIG: WENDY RAHMAN
UNIT: NE/ARN/I
EXT: /R 1386

C/FR/B2

RELEASING OFFICER

LA/COPS

NE/SO

CNE/ARN/I

CNE/ARN

FR/B 2

COORDINATING OFFICERS

SA/DCNE/AO

AUTHENTICATING OFFICER

CLASSIFICATION

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ACTION #

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F-12-79-00

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TOR:1120552 JUL 74 ATFR 00349

S E C R E T 112200Z JUL 74 STAFF

CITE FR/ATLANTA 00349

TO: DIRECTOR.

RYBAT ISOLOG

1. GEORGE KENNY, FBI SPECIAL AGENT IN ATLANTA, HAS ADVISED BASE THAT HOWARD GIBSON HEAD OF ATLANTA BASE CENTRAL INVESTIGATIVE AGENCY OFFICE IN WASHINGTON AND FORMER SUBURBAN ATLANTA (COBB COUNTY) COP ADVISED HIM BY TELEPHONE THAT WASHINGTON OFFICE SUBLEASED BY HIM TO DRUG ENFORCEMENT AGENCY BEING USED BY BKHERALD AS ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE LP. GIBSON CLAIMS OFFICE IN CHARGE BKHERALD OFFICER WHOSE NAME GARBLED ON PHONE. KENNY BELIEVES NAME MAY BE CONNEN. OFFICE IS LOCATED 4 OR 5 BLOCKS FROM WHITE HOUSE. KENNY WILL ATTEMPT OBTAIN ADDRESS.

2. OWNER CENTRAL INVESTIGATIVE AGENCY IS ATLANTAN MITCHELL WERBELL, LOCAL GUN RUNNER AND PRIVATE EYE ON WHOM DCD HAS REPORTED. WERBELL AND GIBSON CURRENTLY IN LITIGATION FOR UNKNOWN REASON. FBI AGENT KENNY STATES GIBSON PROBABLY CAPABLE SPREADING PARA 1 STORY WIDELY AS MEANS EMBARRASS WERBELL.

4.38

S E C R E T

☐ UNCLASSIFIED ☐ [illegible] ☒ CONFIDENTIAL ☐ SECRET

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

Steve Van Cleave

FROM:	EXTENSION	NO.
William D. Pangburn, Atlanta RO		ATL-78-74
		DATE: 21 June 1974

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)	DATE RECEIVED	DATE FORWARDED	OFFICER'S INITIALS	COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)
1. Support Branch/OSS Attn: Grant				Lillian: Reference our telecon of 6/21/74. This is the unedited transcript we discussed. The tape has been cleared and this is the only copy. Regards,
2.				
3.				
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14.				

437

FORM 610 USE PREVIOUS EDITIONS

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN PETERSON AND VAN CLEAVE - Tuesday, 6/18/7[illegible], [illegible]

I had heard a rumor that, I thought at the time that these guys, these idiots can't be doing this again, but in the last week I have picked up a great deal of information that I think needs to be known at this location that involves the Werbell group out of Powder Springs. Are you familiar with that name? [No, I'm not. Bill has been handling all of that and I just don't know anything about it, Mr. Van Cleave. You can give me what information you have and I will pass it on or do what we can, but Bill has been handling that entirely and we work different accounts and I'm sorry to say that I am totally unfamiliar with it.] Well, let me put it to you this way. Is there any way at all that you will be in touch with Bill, so that I could get this information to him by phone. [Well, he is up in Tennessee and we can get in touch with him, yes. I could give him a call.] Well let me give you a brief synopsis so that you can at least pass that on to him. And in the process, I'll have to give you a bit of background on this subject. I consider it very important, not from the standpoint of the fact that what these people are involved in now is starting to break, but I think it is extremely important that this location gets something in to indicate that their contact lets them know what is going on. Mitchell Worbel is a gun dealer basically. He has what is called a farm out at Powder Springs, Georgia. Basically, it is a piece of property with a lake and a firing range and a big house and a gun shop below and a vault with about three thousand Ingram submachine guns and other assorted weapons. Now Werbell has been in and out of all kinds of things. He pops up all over. He loves publicity and he loves to imply a relationship with the Agency. Now, about a year ago they were involved with some people from Britain in an attempt to set up a secession of the Island of Abaco, at the time the Bahamas were granted their independence. Now this was a very serious thing; there were people including members of Parliment from London that came over here and they were going to have a small army on Abaco and the local settlers on Abaco were all for this because they were mostly white and the thing never got off the ground at that time. However, it was known, there were newspapers articles written about it. Lynden Pendling, the Prime Minister of the Bahamas was incensed by this whole scheme and basically, if you could think of anything that would be against the best interest of the US and the Agency and everybody, it would be some idiotic scheme like this. Now a few weeks ago, I heard a rumor from a source that this thing had been [illegible] activated and at the time I called Bill and told him I thought I might [illegible]

[illegible]

suddenly grown bigger. And to be more specific about this, when I say that, I can tell you that it is a fact that last Thursday night the new Ambassador from the Bahamas in Washington got Congressman Andrew Young to one side at a reception and they discussed this matter with grave seriousness. OK, now, therefore I am positive that within certain circles in Washington this matter is being discussed at this moment. Now I also learned that last week the whole group of the Werbell's and their associates were in Washington and I'll give you the names that I know of for sure: Mike Oliver, who is a key figure in this. He represents several wealthy Americans and Britishers who have long had a dream of having their own island and establishing their own country. Now this sounds like something right out of cheap fiction; however, it is a fact. I have met Mike Oliver. And there are about six wealthy individuals, one of whom I think lives in the Bahamas, I believe two are in England, one of them I think is Lord Bellhaven who is a member of Parliament. He has been over to the farm recently and in Washington a few weeks ago with them. About three wealthy Americans, all older fellows with many millions. Now this thing came up once before about eight years ago when they bought a boat and Oliver went out into the Pacific and laid claim to the coral reef in the Samoan Islands I think it was and planted a flag on it and established the free soverign state of Menerva. Life Magazine had a spread on this. And that lasted for about a week until the King of Samoa, or somebody, some Tribal King sent [end of side of tape]

putting aside a piece of Nicaraguan soil and giving it extra territorial rights and I know they have money. To make a long story short, Oliver is involved in this. He came in, I understand, two weeks after the Bahamas got their independence and said we've got the money for the Abaco operation. Now I have it on good source from an informant in their organization that a month or so ago a U-Haul truck came up from Fort Lauderdale in the middle of the night and loaded up a bunch of guns and explosives and took them to Fort Lauderdale. The name of the man who drove the truck was Wally Gillis. He is a freelancer soldier of fortune type and [illegible]

a boat - you know, a good sized cruiser, can go to the Bahamas or wherever. Supposedly this material went to a [illegible] house in Fort Lauderdale but [illegible] being involved down there with a fellow named [illegible]. Bernstine is [illegible] to narcotics people; he is a pilot and has airpl[illegible] and every now and the[illegible]

week was Mike Oliver, Mitchell Werbell, III, retired Colonel Robert Bayard, US Army who also lives in this area and is associated with Werbell and a fellow named Chuck Hall who is a resident of the Bahamas in Nassau, who is a key part of this operation. And I don't know who else but they were staying for several days at the Grammercy Inn, Washington. It is my understanding that they made contact there with a former agent of your organization, with an offer of substantial amounts of money for him to recruit covert types, para-military types, technicians - in effect, mercenaries. And I have reason to believe that he is reporting this information. I certainly hope so. So again, what I am showing you is that I think stuff is coming into Washington right fast. Now Werbell has been known to drop Mr. Colby's name to me and to many other people because he wangled - Werbell originally was in the OSS you know. So he has a lot of old friends who are OSS types in those days and I understand one of these old boys did have dinner with Colby and Werbell wangled his way into it a couple of months ago in Washington. So, that is all he needs to start dropping names like mad. He does know some people in and former people. Now I understand that they have also made contacts in Miami recently with two companies who manufacture electronic equipment and used the name of another former Agency man who is now with the DEA in Washington. Again, I have an informant in the organization who is about ready to break with them and he has told me all this. He was in the office when calls were made to these people, talking about buying electronic equipment which is illegal and using the name of this former Agency man in the DEA and indicating that they would like to see the equipment, that he'll probably arrange to buy some, that type of thing. And I know for a fact that that individual knows about this now and he is a good man and in good standing with everybody. But to summarize this, the point is this - the whole thing is idiotic scheme by a bunch of fools. It is financed by some wealthy idiots, you know, who have money and are behind the scenes and these fools - in other words, if someone came [illegible] to get involved in a scheme like this I wouldn't touch it with a 10 foot pole because it is totally against the interests of both governments involved. Even the slightest leak on it can cause a serious diplomatic problem, you know, regardless of how crazy it is, the fact is an involvement of this type involving Americans, anything that comes out, the first thing that is going to be is an Agency involvement. [illegible] this the Island of [illegible]

[illegible]

is that it?] Yes. You see the Bahamas - I don't know how familiar you are with them, but they don't have an army or anything. They have a small police force and they have some small police boats, little 30 foot jobs that run around the Islands, and they are talking about establishing . . . [Aren't they still under the British protection for foreign troops?] I would certainly think so, but there are no troops stationed there; you follow me? But what I am trying to say is the implications of this thing which I know now are known in Washington by people. When you have the Bahamiam Ambassador, the new Ambassador, getting a black American congressman from Georgia aside - you see these people talk a lot, that is another reason - anybody involved with them is crazy. They have all kinds of these mercenary types and they make calls all over in Miami and all over the world and talk about their schemes and it has broken somewhere, you know, along the line; probably in the Bahamas or Miami. [Well do we know now what the essence of the conversation was between the Ambassador and Young?] I think it expressed grave concern about this situation. I think some names were given of the people. You see they know who Werbell is because Pendling, in fact, one time made a very tough speech about this type of thing with the American intervention in the affairs of the Bahamas and the name Werbell is an international soldier of fortune. I am concerned about one thing: No. 1, I know it isn't going to get off the ground now. I knew it never would. It might have got off the ground but the thing is it's one of these things that could be so messy and opponents, let's say people on the other side would love something like this so they could capitalize on it forever - you know, reports hinting at secret involvement of an American intelligence agency and attempts to establish a base in the Bahamas. A good propagandist could just have a field day with this. So I have a feeling that unless I am really crazy I think people in your organization are aware at this moment of this thing surfacing in Washington. And that is why I am calling this office because I have given information here before on these people and I think that it's important that if somebody says - Hey, have you guys heard anything about them and you fellows say no, we haven't heard anything - you know. [Well you feel in your own mind that this is something that will come about in the very near future, this attempt?] No, I would have to say I have a feeling now the attempt will not come about at all. If enough people in Washington start asking questions and they do know the names of these people and if the former agent up there goes in and gives information to somebody naming the people [illegible] come to [illegible] and the amount of money they offered

him to recruit people for this. That's why they were in Washington last week. This fellow lives up there and he is now in the function of a private investigator but he is a former agent of your organization. So I just want to be sure that you fellows down here, you know, if someone asks a question, or if they don't then at least you throw a report in indicating that an informant here, namely me, and by name, has given you this information. Because there is another factor involved too. Werbell - see Bill knows about my relationship with him. I was forced to take Werbell to Argentina last year for a private client of mine. One of the Board of Directors thought he was the greatest international thing in the world and he was the biggest millstone I have ever had around my neck. I was down there defending against the ERP terrorist group and Werbell was running all over Buenos Aires with smugglers and prostitutes and everybody and dropping our names and getting drunk and hinting that we were big American secret agents. He stayed on after I left and nearly got picked up by the Federal police. They were friends of mine I might add, so I got my situation cleared down there. But he loves to talk to me. I do international security work for corporations and he wanted to get involved with me in business and I refused to have anything to do with him, you know. But he loves to get drunk and call me and brag. And he called me several months ago and told me he was working with a group in Bolivia and I said I hope it is the government. And he said Oh no, it's the other guys. And I said well Mitch, you're crazy. It's not up to any private citizen or private organization to go anywhere in the world and get involved with people against the government. It just is trouble, that's all there is to it. And I forgot about that and he called me the morning after the attempted coup (ph) down there and named his source there as Lt. Colonel Gary Prado and as it turns out Prado was one of the two leaders of the attempted coup and he had shipped guns down there through New Orleans, through an intermediate named Phillips, and here again - well frankly, Bonzaire his General, Hugo Bonzaire, the strong man of Bolivia, and I don't think we have bad relations with them. In fact, he is getting closer to [illegible] (ph) [illegible] Paraguay, [illegible] strong men down there and it is a known fact that he hates communist and he sends the troops out to kill them so what should anybody be doing trying to overthrow an anti-communist government. I'm an old country boy but that just doesn't make sense to me. Furthermore, a private individual. So because of that [illegible] when they broke up [illegible] busted all of 15 minutes [illegible]

they round up everybody and interrogate them and say where did you get the guns and they find Ingrams and Ingrams only come from Werbell and then you have State Department you know, saying what is this, do you know who, down here trying to overthrow our government. And since Prado, by the way was leader of the troops that captured Shay Dravarro (ph) [Che Guevara] then once again you get into a good left-wing journalist can really weave a nice little story of that big bad Agency down there doing things again. So he is like a mouquito in that he doesn't accomplish anything but he is very dangerous in my opinion to our relations. Bad enough to mess up good things. [I will pass this on to Bill.] Well tell him this, that I was in Washington last week and let me emphasize again that I would be the most surprised person in the world if Senior Officers at Langley aren't aware as of the Friday, of this situation and through the Washington surfacing there, you follow me? And really I like Bill and what I'm trying to do, I'm putting myself in his position and this is his area and I know that reports, because I have talked to him before about them and I am sure that this has been made a matter of record. And I just think it would be nice for Bill to be able to say yes, my informant has given me information - this information. Because it will all tie in. You might mention too that within the last two months Werbell has visited Vesco in Costa Rica and after that visit a Vesco associate named Marino came up here from Panama and stayed at Werbell's. So he is dealing now with Vesco too and all of this is just nothing but bad. And he is implying, he talks to newspaper people and writers and he does imply and use names that he is not authorized to use and shouldn't use. I know that he is not an official or unofficial or anything else connected with your Agency but this is the way he is surviving. People are dealing with him thinking that really he is - there are enough problems happening as it is but all we need is one good left-wing newspaper man to get hold of this type of thing and get it in Jack Anderson's column or some place like that and have an official blast from the government of the Bahamas and then everybody in the world is going to think that the Agency was behind this and got caught. The reason I appreciate this, I think timing is important. I think the end of next week is going to be a little bit late because there might even be some public surfacing of this. So I think it is important that they know that this office does have access to information. I can be reached at my number here which is 258-7593 or at my home, which is 237-2474.

14-00000

12-77-00

CONFIDENTIAL

MAR 5 11 25 AM '74

C O N F I D E N T I A L 051545Z MAR 74 STAFF

CITE DCD/MIAMI 12494

DCD/WASHINGTON

ATTN: SUPPORT BRANCH/OSS (GRANT) A-182014

SUBJ: STEVEN VAN CLEAVE, INTELLIGENCE SERVICES, LTD., ATLANTA, GEORGIA

REF : GRANT/HENNESSEY TELECON, 25 FEBRUARY, SAME SUBJECT

1. DURING THE AFTERNOON OF 21 JANUARY 1974 WE RECEIVED A TELEPHONE CALL FROM ANSELMO ALLIEGRO, [illegible] ROCKERMAN ROAD, MIAMI, FLORIDA, (A CONTACT OF THE MIAMI FIELD OFFICE) WHO ADVISED US THAT AN ACQUAINTANCE OF HIS IN ATLANTA, GEORGIA, STEVEN VAN CLEAVE, WANTED TO SPEAK WITH US IN CONNECTION WITH INTELLIGENCE MATTERS CONCERNING LATIN AMERICA. WE TOLD ALLIEGRO THAT VAN CLEAVE SHOULD CONTACT OUR OFFICE IN ATLANTA; HOWEVER, ALLIEGRO SAID THAT VAN CLEAVE DIDN'T WANT TO DEAL WITH ''RECRUITERS'', RATHER HE WANTED TO SPEAK WITH A CIA OFFICER ''IN THE BUSINESS OF INTELLIGENCE COLLECTION''. WE TOLD ALLIEGRO THAT OUR ATLANTA OFFICE HAS THE SAME STATURE AS THE MIAMI FIELD OFFICE, AND THAT HE SHOULD URGE VAN CLEAVE TO CONTACT OUR REPRESENTATIVE IN ATLANTA. ALLIEGRO WOULDN'T ACCEPT THIS RESPONSE ON OUR PART AND INSISTED THAT WE AT LEAST HEAR WHAT VAN CLEAVE HAD TO SAY. FINALLY, WE AGREED TO ACCEPT A CALL FROM VAN CLEAVE SO THAT WE COULD TELL HIM TO CONTACT OUR ATLANTA REPRESENTATIVE.

A177650

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2. VAN CLEAVE CALLED US AT HIS EXPENSE FROM ATLANTA ABOUT FIVE MINUTES LATER. WE ADVISED HIM AT THE OUTSET THAT HE SHOULD SPEAK WITH BILL PANGBURN IN THE ATLANTA RESIDENT OFFICE AT HIS EARLIEST CONVENIENCE. WE EXPLAINED THAT OUR WORK FORCE IS DIVIDED GEOGRAPHICALLY RATHER THAN FUNCTIONALLY, AND THAT SINCE HE LIVES IN ATLANTA, HE MUST DEAL WITH THE ATLANTA RO. WE PROVIDED HIM WITH THE TELEPHONE NUMBER FOR THE ATLANTA RO, AND HE INDICATED THAT HE WOULD CONTACT PANGBURN THE SAME DAY. WE CALLED PANGBURN TO ADVISE HIM OF VAN CLEAVE'S INTENTION TO CONTACT HIM. WE LATER LEARNED FROM BOTH PANGBURN AND VAN CLEAVE THAT THE CONTACT WAS MADE.

3. WE PRESUMED THAT WE WOULD HAVE NO FURTHER CONTACT WITH VAN CLEAVE. HOWEVER, WE WERE MISTAKEN. VAN CLEAVE PLACED AT LEAST TWO MORE TELEPHONE CALLS TO US FROM ATLANTA (AT HIS EXPENSE), AND ONE FROM DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA. EACH TIME WE ADVISED HIM TO CALL PANGBURN RATHER THAN US. HIS RESPONSE ON THESE OCCASIONS WAS THAT HE ALREADY HAD OR INTENDED TO KEEP PANGBURN ADVISED BUT THAT HE WANTED TO KEEP US INFORMED ALSO. THE LOCAL DADE COUNTY CALL WAS MADE TO ADVISE US THAT VAN CLEAVE WAS IN MIAMI IN THE COMPANY OF TWO ARGENTINE POLICE OFFICIALS, WHOM WE COULD DEBRIEF IF WE SO DESIRED. WE AGAIN TOLD HIM THAT HE COULD REPORT TO ATLANTA.

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4. VAN CLEAVE TOLD US DURING ONE OF THE AFOREMENTIONED CONVERSATIONS THAT HE IS ACQUAINTED WITH MITCHELL WERBELL, A127900 POWDER SPRINGS, GEORGIA, AND THAT HE HAD BEEN ''PRESSURED'' INTO TAKING WERBELL TO ARGENTINA WITH HIM IN LATE JANUARY 1974 BY OFFICIALS IN THE COCA COLA COMPANY, CORAL GABLES, A164 FLORIDA, WITH WHICH VAN CLEAVE HAD (OR HAS) A CONSULTING CONTRACT IN CONNECTION WITH COCA COLA'S SECURITY SYSTEM IN ARGENTINA. VAN CLEAVE ADVISED US THAT HE NEVER AGAIN WOULD HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH WERBELL BECAUSE THE LATTER HAD ACTED SO BADLY DURING THIS TRIP. HE TOLD US THAT WERBELL HAD COMMENTED TO ARGENTINE OFFICIALS THAT HE (WERBELL) WAS SOME-HOW CONNECTED WITH THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY, AND ON A FIRST NAME BASIS WITH ''BILL'' COLBY, DCI. VAN CLEAVE TOLD US THAT MATTERS HAD DEGENERATED TO SUCH A DEGREE THAT HE RETURNED TO THE US WITHOUT WERBELL. (OUR MEMORY IS A BIT FUZZY ON THE CONTENTS OF THIS DISCUSSION, BUT WE RECALL SOMETHING TO THE EFFECT THAT WERBELL WAS INVOLVED WITH WINE, WOMEN, AND SONG, AND VAN CLEAVE WAS AFRAID THAT WERBELL MIGHT BE ARRESTED BY ARGENTINE POLICE BEFORE IT WAS OVER.) VAN CLEAVE TOLD US THAT HE PERSONALLY NEVER HAS SO MUCH AS IMPLIED A RELATIONSHIP WITH THE AGENCY TO ANY OUTSIDER.

5. ALTHOUGH WE HAVE NOT MET VAN CLEAVE IN PERSON, BASED UPON OUR TELEPHONE CONVERSATIONS WITH HIM HE APPEARED TO BE AN INTELLIGENT AND REASONABLE MAN. WE ARE SORRY THAT WE CANNOT PROVIDE A MORE DETAILED ACCOUNT OF OUR CONVERSATIONS WITH VAN CLEAVE, BUT AS WE MENTIONED IN REFERENCED TELECON WE DID NOT MAKE NOTES DURING THE CONVERSATIONS NOR DID WE FEEL IT NECESSARY AT THE TIME TO WRITE A MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD SINCE WE BELIEVED THAT IT WAS A NORMAL, ALBEIT COMPLEX, REFERRAL TO ANOTHER DCD OFFICE. E 2 IMPDET CL BY [illegible]

C O N F I D E N T I A L

12-77-00

ATL-30-74
28 February 1974

Chief, Domestic Collection Division
Attn: Support Branch/OSS(Grant)

Chief, Washington Field Office
Atlanta Resident Office

Resume of Contacts with Stephen Van Cleave

A122114 A127900

1. Jack Hennessy, Miami Field Office, called on 21 January 1974 to give us a source lead on Stephen Van Cleave and Mitch Werbell, both from Atlanta, Georgia. Jack briefed us on past Miami contacts with Van Cleave and suggested we might want to contact him concerning his activities in Argentina. At that time we were in the process of moving the office to the present location so did not contact Van Cleave until 25 January 1974. On that date we called, identified ourselves and briefly explained the reason for the call. His first question was, "Do you know Mitch Werbell and does this have anything to do with him?" We assured him we did not know Werbell, and our interest was not related to him. Van Cleave suggested we come to his office at 1:00 that afternoon.

2. We arrived shortly before 1:00 at his office in [illegible] W. Wieuca Rd. N.E., Atlanta, Georgia. Van Cleave has a one room office in a modern building located in a moderate to high rent district of Atlanta. After presenting credentials and a business card we asked if we might tape the interview. He said he preferred we tape it, as well as any future transactions, as he wanted to be absolutely sure any information he gave us was reported accurately. Enclosure No. 1 is a rough draft of the first interview. The actual tape has been erased. Some of this information was reported in 00-A(S)-[illegible]/0[illegible]35-74, Secret, CIA Internal Use Only.

3. On 9 February 1974 we received a call from Van Cleave at home. He wanted to report in detail on a recent trip to Oakland, California, where he had supposedly met with police officials and discussed the Hearst kidnapping, the SLA, etc. We told him this was very interesting but not CIA business.

4. Van Cleave called again on 25 February 1974 to fill us in on a visit to the US by Argentine police officials and an operational opportunity in the Bahamas. We prepared this information for dissemination as 00-A(S)'s. In view of recent developments we assume neither report should be disseminated. To complete your record of contacts, both reports are enclosed as Enclosures No.'s 2 and 3 (disregard the Atlanta report numbers, they will be used for future reporting or cancelled).

E 2 IMPDET CL BY 010650

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5. In the meantime the R G Murphy kidnapping came up to occupy his time until 26 February when he called to say he had some sensitive information of definite interest to CIA. When told we could not get into his office the following day due to a lack of transportation, he said he would come to our office. We reluctantly agreed. Late the morning of 27 February he came to our office and presented us with the information in Enclosure No. 4 (rough draft--the tape will be saved in case it is needed at a later date).

6. Not on the transcript but of possible interest, before leaving our office he said he was afraid he might be fired by Coca Cola on 4 March 1974. Briefly, what apparently happened (and this is his story) was:

a. When it was learned Peg Murphy had been kidnapped, Chief John Inman of the Atlanta Police Department called Van Cleave requesting his assistance. He asked Van Cleave to come to headquarters and work with Assistant Chief Mullins (we believe this is the correct name) on the Murphy kidnapping,

b. Van Cleave apparently expressed concern to the Assistant Chief that prominent members of Coca Cola Company residing in the Atlanta area might be targets for the same kidnappers,

c. The Assistant Chief agreed and went along with Van Cleave notifying, by phone, Coke officials,

d. Van Cleave had not cleared this action with his immediate supervisor at the Coca Cola Company,

e. Apparently the phone calls were made very late in the evening,

f. When the Murphy kidnapping was resolved, Van Cleave was called in by his boss to account for his actions. He apparently has not been able to justify the calls and this will be discussed at the meeting on 4 March. We suspect this may be his last official action for the Coca Cola Company.

E 2 IMPDET CL BY 010050

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ATL-30-74
28 February 1974

7. Since receiving the 27 February 1974 call from OSS, we have checked with Charles Haynes and Bob Perry of the FBI. Both are familiar with Van Cleave and his operations. Perry confirmed that Van Cleave had passed the information contained in Enclosure No. 4 to the FBI. Perry had a few other things to say about Van Cleave that probably do not need to be repeated in this memorandum.

8. Concerning the future, we intend to be hard to reach when Van Cleave calls; if necessary, talk to him on the phone a few times to see if he gets the idea; then if all fails simply tell him we have been told to stay out of this business.

A. B. COLEMAN

WDPengburn:mw

Enclosures
(as stated)

E 2 IMPDET CL BY 010650

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F-12-79-00

CIA INTERNAL USE ONLY

MIM-008-74

11 January 1974

Chief, Domestic Collection Division

ATTN : Support Branch/OSS (Ryan/Ames)

Chief, Miami Field Office

Mitchell L. WerBell, III

REF : OSS-44-74, Dated 8 January 1974

Thank you for referent. For the record, subject has made no further effort to contact anyone in this office; similarly, we plan no attempts to get in touch with him. Thus the matter rests there at this writing. Should he call again, however, we will keep the advice contained in referent in mind in dealing with him.

BRUCE E. MAINWARING

BEM:mbj

CIA INTERNAL USE ONLY

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E 2 IMPDET CL BY 010550

CIA INTERNAL USE ONLY

F-12-79-00

OSS-44-74
8 January 1974

Chief, Miami Field Office
ATTN : Mr. Bruce Mainwaring

Chief, Domestic Collection Division (Support Branch/OSS)

Mitchell L. Werbell, III

1. We have reviewed subject's 201 file for additional information. Subject was of interest to this Agency in 1959 and was granted a POA in August of that year. This was cancelled in October 1959 when his information proved to be of little value and because it was suspected he was using Agency funds to promote his personal interests. He has subsequently attempted to pass himself off as an Agency employee. He is characterized by the file as unscrupulous, a "wheeler-dealer" and a promoter of grandiose schemes. The subject has been under investigation in 1973 by both the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms and the United States Customs Service for activities relating to possible mercenary activities in Abaco Island, Bahamas.

2. If the subject should contact your office again, we suggest you accept whatever information he has to offer but make no further commitments concerning Agency contact. Subject is well known to the appropriate Desk and is of extremely doubtful character.

3. We trust this memorandum will provide you with useful information concerning this subject. Thank you for bringing his name to our attention.

JACKSON R. HORTON

SPRyan for KBAmes/b
cc: Services Br. (Control)
DP Files

FILE: TH-25819

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E-2 IMPDET CL BY 010830

CIA INTERNAL USE ONLY

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CONFIDENTIAL

12-77-00

Chief, Washington Field Office — 12 July 1972

Director, Domestic Contact Service (OO)

A-765546

A-168762

[illegible] Jr., Military Armament Corporation, Powder Springs, Georgia

REF : Van Hopper/[illegible] telecons

A-127900

1. Attached per referenced telephone conversations is copy of [illegible] ... Corporation, [illegible] ... known to this [illegible]

2. [illegible]

3. [illegible] in connection [illegible] ... Jr. [illegible] ... of caution. [illegible]

4. If we can be of further assistance in this matter, please advise.

[illegible]

Attachment
[illegible]
cc: [illegible] Division [illegible]
FILED: [illegible]

4.32

SECRET

OGC (John Greany)

F 12 79-00

MIM-056-71

Director, Domestic Contact Service

ATTN : John McConnell
John Greany (OGC)
Chief, Miami Field Office

10 March 1971

13

Mitchell Livingston Werbell, III

1. On 9 Mar 71 we received a long distance call, presumably from Powder Springs, Georgia, from subject, who is an old and unsavory contact of this office dating from 1959. Werbell has been involved in a variety of scrapes, the latest of which concerned an abortive invasion of Haiti which John Greany was very much concerned about a year or so ago.

2. Werbell stated that the Department of Defense had just revoked his security clearance on grounds of Werbell's "frivolous behavior" in the Haitian caper. Werbell stated that he intended to "fight it to the Supreme Court", as he had always kept us and other elements of the US Government informed concerning developments in the Haitian matter.

3. Werbell asked if there was anything that we could do for him in the way of interceding for him with the DOD, and we informed him bluntly and in no uncertain terms that he was strictly on his own, and we could do nothing for him. He then asked if it would be worthwhile to subpoena Bart Gonzales. We informed him that it was up to his attorney to make such recommendations.

4. Werbell seemed to get the message, and then offered to keep us advised regarding an alleged forthcoming attempt on Haiti which is being sponsored by Rolando Masferrer, even though Masferrer is currently incarcerated in a federal prison. We told Werbell that if he wished to pass any information along we would accept it but under no circumstances should he attempt to elicit any information on our behalf. He agreed that he would operate on this basis and said he might be in touch with us again.

5. In view of Werbell's record we felt that this latest contact should be a matter of record and that OGC should be informed of developments.

JUSTIN F. GLEICHAUF

JFG/cas

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SECRET

Mitch WerBell: Gunsmith to the 'Right' Si[illegible]

By Roger Williams

The following is excerpted by permission from Atlanta magazine.

DOWN THE DRIVEWAY that snakes through the country estate came two teen-age boys. They were clean-cut and handsome in the traditional college fashion, and they looked at home in the quiet, leafy setting. But one wore a camouflage suit and carried a large pistol in each hand, the other had an M3 "grease gun" tucked under one arm and a silencer-equipped sniper rifle under the other.

Behind them, propelling himself vigorously in a wheelchair, came their father, Mitchell Livingston WerBell III of Powder Springs, Ga.—soldier of fortune, militant anticommunist and one of the nation's leading developers of military weapons and accessories.

Mitch IV and Geoff chatted lightly about the weapons they were carrying. Their father, temporarily immobilized by a fractured heel, punctured the conversation with brief bursts of information about the sniper rifle, one of his most choice products. "This weapon had killed 1,900 VC in six months," he said proudly. "Those VC took only 13 rounds per kill. Twenty-seven cents apiece they cost Uncle Sam. That's the greatest cost effectiveness the Army's ever known."

Moments later young Mitch and Geoff pumped round after round from the weapons into the bullet-shattered hulk of an automobile that serves as the primary target on the WerBell firing range. Then Mitch began firing a pistol, a standard Army .45. The gun [illegible] upward and the noise echoed across the fields and treetops. He then picked up a strange, smoothly rectangular handgun, an Ingram Model 11, equipped with a "flash and muzzle suppressor," and began firing it. The muzzle barely moved, and the only sound was a metallic click, followed by the [illegible] of the bullet and the pop as it hit the target.

The effect was eerie, almost chilling, especially when young Mitch put the [illegible] on full automatic and whipped off [illegible] clicking rounds in one second. Geoff provided the same kind of demonstration with the grease gun, a standard military submachine gun and the sniper rifle which WerBell calls the XM-21 [illegible] which is also equipped with a suppressor.

On the way back to the house, WerBell explained why the suppressor, commonly called a silencer, is so effective a firearm accessory. "It hides the muzzle flash and reduces the firing [illegible] to [illegible] metal on [illegible]. You [illegible]

[illegible] air weapons given to him by friendly forces in Vietnam, he said, and they were shipped to the States for display in military museums.

Not surprisingly, WerBell has often been called an operative of the Central Intelligence Agency, a charge that angers him only when it is leveled too vehemently. It is not that he has anything against the CIA. He just doesn't, he says, happen to be one of its boys. His paramilitary work, which consists of advising and sometimes directly assisting foreign governments, is done in the employ of what he calls "an independent group of well-intentioned, patriotic Americans." The Birch Society? The Minutemen? A bunch of far-right Texas millionaires? WerBell won't say, other than to insist that it is not the CIA.

It hardly matters, for according to WerBell, it is all in the service not only of freedom and anticommunism but of the U.S. government; he does not supply or advise or fight for regimes not bearing the State Department seal of approval. A heavy percentage of his merchandise goes directly to the U.S. government, which distributes it to its own forces that need silent or exotic weapons. The balance is sold to friendly governments, either directly or through the good offices of the "independent group." He says he does not sell to individuals, not even if they're certified anticommunists.

WerBell takes pains to point out that he is no ordinary arms broker. That is, he is not one of those shadowy figures who sell weapons to both sides at exorbitant prices or who take possession of contraband shipments on the high seas. "We've always adhered to a basic policy: There is only one friend of the United States in a given area, and we deal only with that friend."

What does WerBell peddle? A range of firearms from machine guns to desk-sized cannons, from the meanest-looking weapons to innocent-looking swagger sticks that fire a bullet or even a small rocket; an array of techniques — "systems," he calls them — that will help an American soldier or a foreign army hold off insurgent forces; and occasionally, his personal services.

These services present WerBell at his most shadowy. Serving as a combatant in the armed forces of a foreign nation is against U.S. law, and WerBell is understandably reluctant to admit having done so. He describes himself in such terms as "paramilitary" and "adviser," but acquaintances suspect he has been in the thick of the fighting a number of times. He may even have [illegible]

In Operational [illegible] and [illegible] Environmental [illegible] in earnest to develop [illegible] hardware [illegible] Mitch IV [illegible] came into [illegible] IV was [illegible] insurgent [illegible] spent [illegible] the Dominican Republic [illegible] in underwater [illegible] sites. Geoff [illegible] missed out on a [illegible] father took him [illegible] ago, but the plans [illegible]

One day I sat in WerBell [illegible] Geoff displayed a [illegible] Armament [illegible] brought out [illegible] shaped tube [illegible] ing 2½ [illegible] cartridge [illegible] gun, and [illegible] out [illegible] guises the [illegible] at the end [illegible] barrel. WerBell [illegible] to secret [illegible] the [illegible] sort," that is, shoot them [illegible]

In the same [illegible] swagger stick [illegible] silver [illegible] studs, one [illegible] cial model [illegible] guard [illegible] Antonio [illegible] to blast [illegible] ace. Then [illegible] cannon [illegible] knack for a [illegible] fires, with one [illegible] ment, a bullet [illegible] visitor. More [illegible] WerBell's [illegible] outer," a [illegible] millimeter rifle that [illegible] the eye at 200 meters."

The bulk of WerBell's [illegible] sound suppressors and [illegible] submachine guns. Suppress[illegible] used on large as well as [illegible] ons, and in fact have been [illegible] tively on the [illegible] machine guns [illegible] helicopters in Vietnam [illegible] Army Journal [illegible] Stoner suppressor [illegible] thing previously [illegible] now possible [illegible] from relatively [illegible] when using [illegible]

WerBell [illegible] Ingram Model [illegible] are two [illegible] cartrid[illegible] eventually [illegible] vidual weap[illegible] Army [illegible]

elaborate system, and it's not ... th it. You can't hear the bolt noise, ... away in a combat situation, so for all practical purposes the firing is soundless. Often, the loudest noise is when the bullet hits home. If it hits a human, it makes a peculiar, thunking sound, like hitting a watermelon."

'Compulsive Warrior'

MITCH WERBELL sounds completely matter-of-fact when he talks about firearms, and death, and with reason. He has been in the military hardware business for years, and he has either heard or produced—or both—the thunking watermelon sound many times—in Latin America and Southeast Asia, in the U.S. armed forces and as a paramilitary "adviser." He is a compulsive warrior, an armed crusader fighting against "ungodly communism."

WerBell is not alone in this occupation, but he practices it in a unique manner. Most soldiers of fortune are nothing else, and they live from one little war to the next, brawling and boozing their way through a tough and financially unrewarding life.

WerBell, by contrast, is a businessman who dabbles in military adventure only when and as far as it suits him. If combat didn't titillate him, he wouldn't partake of it. His business is supplying weapons, not using them in anger. He specializes in the weapons and techniques of counterinsurgency, which may be roughly defined as the forceful suppression of coups d'etat, rebellions and the like.

The way WerBell operates, this means defending established regimes, some of them dictatorships, against armed revolt. This political posture not only does not trouble WerBell, it pleases him. "I have no objection to dictatorship if it serves the interests of the country," he says. Particularly if the threat to those interests is from the left: "Communism has no place in the Western Hemisphere—or in any hemisphere. I am totally opposed to it, and to the spread of ideological germs and filth that it brings."

... and again, WerBell's name ... the news. The first issue of

... gears on two.

Corporate Setup

THE HEADQUARTERS for h.. work, the former Dobbs estate, is on Highway 360 just outside of Powder Springs in a remote section of Cobb County. Actually, corporate headquarters is in Washington, in a firm called Environmental Industries, Inc.—a neat euphemism for a company dedicated to killing people. Environmental Industries, WerBell says, is bankrolled by some of the East's most prominent investment houses; he is its director of international operations. He is also president of a subsidiary called Military Armaments Co., Inc., and because he is in Powder Springs, Military Armaments is there, too. (Behind Environmental Industries, WerBell says, is "a third shadow of which E.I. is a subsidiary"—another tantalizing hint of the CIA.)

Military Armaments may well be a unique American enterprise. Nobody else, WerBell says, is in the business of designing special purpose weapons on such a scale. A good deal of its designing and manufacturing is done under federal license. Silencers, for example, are outlawed by the National Firearms Act, along with sawed-off shotguns, submachine guns and other vestiges of Prohibition era gangland wars.

To manufacture his suppressors, WerBell must pay a special tax of $500 a year, collected by the Treasury Department. The T-men also check periodically to see that his awesome collection of firearms—over 200 individual pieces—is properly registered. Apparently the market for suppressors is not very large because, according to WerBell, his firm is the only one authorized to manufacture them.

WerBell will not discuss the sales or profits of Military Armaments except to say that, after two years of extensive research and development (resulting in "a tax loss of a half million dollars"), the company is now doing very well. It has about 12 employees, including four machinists who work under the direction of Gordon Ingram, who has charge of the design operation and whose name is on the Model 11 subma... ...ung Mitch demon-

Mitchell WerBell dresses the part at his private arsenal in Georgia, where he makes specialized light weapons for the U.S. Army and other counterinsurgency forces around the world. Beside him is his son, Geoff. The braces were only temporary, while WerBell recovered from a leg injury.

WerBell six children and put up with his rather unusual way of life. (When he left for the Far East in 1968, he said he'd be gone for a year or more, and he was.)

A Military Profile

MITCHELL WERBELL is a short, wiry man of 52, quick with a quip and quite sensible until he begins talking about communism or other social issues. He has the face and bearing of a Prussian officer, an image he cultivated by wearing a mustache and occasionally a monocle. He often dresses in military clothing of indeterminate origin, and he embellishes the image by talking in slightly clipped sentences peppered with military phrases. There is nothing phony in this. WerBell has a strong attachment to weapons and to warfare, and he has been around them so long that the ideas and styles they foster are an ingrained part of his personality.

He comes by both his militarism and his anticommunism honestly. His father was an officer in the Russian Imperial army, even though he was born in the United States. "It was a tricky situation," says Mitch. "He was a citizen of both the U.S. and Russia. In those days you could do that."

The elder WerBell fought against the Bolsheviks, but before the collapse of the czarist regime he wisely secured an appointment as liaison officer between the Russian and American forces—stationed in the U.S. He lived in this country for the rest of his life, putting his early medical training to use in cancer research.

A legacy from father is Mitch's barely disguised aristocratic sympa-

vertising in a department store. Soon he was head of the department, and soon after that he went on his own.

In the mid-'50s, WerBell pulled out of his agency and then formed his own public relations firm. "I'd already been drifting into international PR," WerBell says, "using my family background. I had tremendous contacts in Europe, and I moved into the Far East, too." How much of this moving in was military, WerBell won't say, but his business took on more and more of what he calls a "geopolitical" flavor.

Before long, he was dabbling in Latin American dictatorships. "Before Fidel took over in Cuba, we were working closely with Batista." He adds with a grin, "Our function was to keep Batista in power, although the U.S. government was looking favorably on Fidel at that point."

From all this, even WerBell doesn't know exactly how, came a passionate concern about communism. "I decided to devote whatever time I could to anticommunist activities," he says. "At first it was sort of a hobby, but then it became my main drive in life. What I'm doing now"—here he gestures at the arsenal on his office walls—"affords me a damned good living. But the living is not why I do it."

The Heart of It

IN 1948, WHILE anticommunism was still a hobby, albeit a paying hobby, WerBell purchased the Dobbs estate. He installed rudimentary design facilities and began experimenting with weapons of counterinsurgency, weapons he believed had the best chance of preventing Communist takeovers in the small, underdeveloped nations of ... realized

who had both the savvy and the guts to help preserve them.

His first major paramilitary operation was in the Dominican Republic during the 1965 revolt. He was, of course, on the side of the government, which was fending off allegedly Communist insurgents; the United States was on its side, too. WerBell wound up in the midst of the fighting. He was the second Dominican government man to reach the Ozama River, scene of the major battle.

Ellsworth Bunker, then U.S. ambassador to the Organization of American States, became highly exercised over WerBell's activities and his hawkish views on the conflict (WerBell opposed a cessation of hostilities and establishment of a coalition government). Bunker considered trying to toss WerBell out of the country, but nothing came of it. WerBell's "independent group"—CIA, Texas millionaires or whatever—saw to that.

WerBell was already active in the anti-Castro movement, and he brought to it a sense of dash and discipline that the ragtag, bickering bunch of Cuban exiles had seldom seen. Perhaps his major anti-Castro exploit was a speedboat foray into Camarioca, on Cuba's southern coast. The mission was to drop a swimmer, apparently a spy, offshore, and to pick up the family of an exile leader. The boat, flying the Confederate flag on the radio antenna, foundered in high seas, and the raiding party was captured. The Cubans, the story goes, did not know what to make of the brash WerBell, and he and his pals wound up stealing a Castro boat and spiriting some 16 anti-Castroites out of the country before they themselves returned to the United States.

fully at the Ingram models wi...
toward making them standa...
ment of ... merican soldiers; if ...
pens, ... inancial success o...
Armaments will presumabl...
sured. According to data pub...
the firms, the Ingram mo...
shorter, lighter and capable o...
ing more firepower than any...
the market. They are also, ...
says, ideal for secret agents ...
snugly into a dispatch case ...
Armaments makes the case, ...
plete with suppressor and ...
zines.

Business Is Business

DOES WERBELL feel a t...
conscience about pro...
world with such deadly and ...
weapons? No. "I see no rea...
concerned," he says. "We're ...
a certain product that is unfo...
a part of the civilized world. ...
people exist, there's going ...
arms business. I don't see mu...
ence between our supplyin...
combatants and a surgica...
house supplying gauze to ban...
wounds inflicted."

There is his anticommun...
ment, too. WerBell is figh...
Communist menace; it is a ...
must be won and weapons a...
to win it.

Contrary to cynical opinion...
Springs was not named in ...
WerBell and his enterprise ...
in fact, stays as aloof from ...
community as possible. His h...
well-stocked, it is practically ...
cient save for occasional tr...
grocery and liquor stores. ...
been, from time to time, an...
feeling in Powder Springs. W...
clares, "The hell with it. Wh...
tell 'em I'm prepared to purc...
property if they don't like th...

He does not suffer from ...
however. There is a steady ...
visitors and customers, for...
well as Americans. A few ...
WerBell's son-in-law, an Air F...
tenant colonel, flew in fr...
mainly to see what was ne...
the shop; he hadn't been by ...
months, he said, "and thin...
awfully quickly around here...
I was there, the colonel an...
swapped ideas on putting the...
partment of no-win policy o...
on bringing the enemy to ...

[illegible] the heat, crawling and [illegible] their way through a tough and [illegible] unrewarding life.

WerBell, by contrast, is a business[man] who dabbles in military adven[tur]e only when and as far as it suits [hi]m. If combat didn't titillate him, he [wou]ldn't partake of it. His business is [su]pplying weapons, not using them in [co]mbat. He specializes in the weapons [an]d techniques of counterinsur[gen]cy, which may be roughly defined [as] the forceful suppression of coups [d'é]tat, rebellions and the like.

The way WerBell operates, this [mea]ns defending established regimes, [so]me of them dictatorships, against [arm]ed revolt. This political posture [no]t only does not trouble WerBell, it [ple]ases him. "I have no objection to [dic]tatorship if it serves the interests of [the] country," he says. Particularly if [the] threat to those interests is from [th]e left. "Communism has no place in [the] Western Hemisphere—or in any [pla]ce elsewhere. I am totally opposed to it, [an]d to the spread of ideological germs [an]d filth that it brings."

Now and again, WerBell's name [pop]s into the news. The first issue of [th]e new muckraking magazine, Scan[la]n's, carried an exhaustive story on [his] involvement in an abortive inva[sion] of Haiti in 1966, and WerBell was [cr]edited with a major, if uncertain, [ro]le in the operation. (WerBell was ar[re]sted and indicted after the fiasco, [bu]t charges against him were dropped, [wh]ile six others arrested were brought [to] trial. Asked by a friend for an ex[pla]nation, WerBell replied jauntily, "[Wh]en you work for the company, [the]y take care of you. I'll never hear [an]other word about it." So far he [has]n't, he maintains.)

[La]st December, WerBell hit the [fro]nt page of The Atlanta Constitution [wh]en a shipment of captured enemy [we]apons bound from Vietnam was de[tain]ed at Eglin Air Force Base, Flor[ida]. A national columnist conjectured [tha]t WerBell or his friends meant to [di]stribute the weapons to rightwing [ex]tremist groups in the U.S. WerBell [an]grily denies that. They were souve[nirs] [illegible] scale. A good deal of its de[illegible]signing and manufacturing is done under federal license. Silencers, for example, are outlawed by the National Firearms Act, along with sawed-off shotguns, submachine guns and other vestiges of Prohibition era gangland wars.

To manufacture his suppressors, WerBell must pay a special tax of $500 a year, collected by the Treasury Department. The T-men also check periodically to see that his awesome collection of firearms—over 200 individual pieces—is properly registered. Apparently the market for suppressors is not very large because, according to WerBell, his firm is the only one authorized to manufacture them.

WerBell will not discuss the sales or profits of Military Armaments except to say that, after two years of extensive research and development (resulting in "a tax loss of a half million dollars"), the company is now doing very well. It has about 12 employees, including four machinists who work under the direction of Gordon Ingram, who has charge of the design operation and whose name is on the Model 11 submachine gun that young Mitch demonstrated on the firing range.

'Cottage Industry'

INGRAM WORKS in a well-equipped machine shop-lab attached to the main house on the estate, which WerBell likes to call "the farm." WerBell's office is next door to the shop. Its walls are so loaded with weapons that it is a wonder they do not collapse. There are knives and spear guns and pistols and rifles and machine guns, dozens and dozens of them, some purchased, some won in combat, some presented by the appreciative recipients of WerBell's counterinsurgency techniques.

WerBell, who has a sense of humor, calls his enterprise a "cottage industry" and likens himself to "a country doctor. . . . I can fall out of the living area upstairs right down to the office."

Upstairs is the domain of his German-born wife Hildegard, a pleasant, gray-haired woman who has borne [illegible] cultivated by wearing a mustache and occasionally a monocle. He often dresses in military clothing of indeterminate origin, and he embellishes the image by talking in slightly clipped sentences peppered with military phrases. There is nothing phony in this. WerBell has a strong attachment to weapons and to warfare, and he has been around them so long that the ideas and styles they foster are an ingrained part of his personality.

He comes by both his militarism and his anticommunism honestly. His father was an officer in the Russian Imperial army, even though he was born in the United States. "It was a tricky situation," says Mitch. "He was a citizen of both the U.S. and Russia. In those days you could do that."

The elder WerBell fought against the Bolsheviks, but before the collapse of the czarist regime he wisely secured an appointment as liaison officer between the Russian and American forces—stationed in the U.S. He lived in this country for the rest of his life, putting his early medical training to use in cancer research.

A legacy from father is Mitch's barely disguised aristocratic sympathies. He has been quoted as saying, "Communism is a substitution of a peasant dictatorship over the aristocracy—I prefer the aristocracy." He is without question an elitist. Not surprisingly, his elite is composed of superpatriots and military men.

Mitchell WerBell was born in Pennsylvania, shortly after his Russian-American father and his Scottish-born mother arrived in the U.S. at the end of World War I. His parents traveled a good deal, here and abroad, and Mitch traveled with them, picking up his education as he went. He got a degree in journalism from the University of Pennsylvania. In World War II, he joined the OSS, and served with a unit behind Japanese lines in China, rising to the rank of captain and acquiring a taste for guerrilla-type warfare he would never lose.

WerBell moved to Atlanta shortly after the war and went to work in ad[illegible] [illegible] of what he calls a [illegible] favor.

Before long, he was dabbling in Latin American dictatorships. "Before Fidel took over in Cuba, we were working closely with Batista." He adds with a grin, "Our function was to keep Batista in power, although the U.S. government was looking favorably on Fidel at that point."

From all this, even WerBell doesn't know exactly how, came a passionate concern about communism. "I decided to devote whatever time I could to anticommunist activities," he says. "At first it was sort of a hobby, but then it became my main drive in life. What I'm doing now"—here he gestures at the arsenal on his office walls—"affords me a damned good living. But the living is not why I do it."

The Heart of It

IN 1948, WHILE anticommunism was still a hobby, albeit a paying hobby, WerBell purchased the Dobbs estate. He installed rudimentary design facilities and began experimenting with weapons of counterinsurgency, weapons he believed had the best chance of preventing Communist takeovers in the small, underdeveloped nations of Asia and Latin America. "I realized that in counterinsurgency, the primary problem was a lack of depth in weaponry. People say, 'Win the hearts of the enemy, and you'll win the fight.' That's a lot of bull. The best way to get their hearts, if they're the enemy, is to shoot 'em and cut the hearts out."

While he experimented with weapons—quietly, to avoid problems with the federals—WerBell proceeded with his personal brand of geopolitics. He made himself available to anticommunist regimes that wanted help in fighting off one band of insurgents or another. In the process, he became friendly with a number of Latin America's political strongmen. They were delighted to discover a Norte Americano who felt as they did about the need for stable, anticommunist regimes, especially their regimes, and [illegible]

[Ells]worth Bunker, then U.S. ambas[sa]dor to the Organization of American States, became highly exercised over WerBell's activities and his hawkish views on the conflict (WerBell opposed a cessation of hostilities and establishment of a coalition government). Bunker considered trying to toss WerBell out of the country, but nothing came of it. WerBell's "independent group"—CIA, Texas millionaires or whatever—saw to that.

WerBell was already active in the anti-Castro movement, and he brought to it a sense of dash and discipline that the ragtag, bickering bunch of Cuban exiles had seldom seen. Perhaps his major anti-Castro exploit was a speedboat foray into Camarioca, on Cuba's southern coast. The mission was to drop a swimmer, apparently a spy, offshore, and to pick up the family of an exile leader. The boat, flying the Confederate flag on the radio antenna, foundered in high seas, and the raiding party was captured. The Cubans, the story goes, did not know what to make of the brash WerBell, and he and his pals wound up stealing a Castro boat and spiriting some 10 anti-Castroites out of the country before they themselves returned to the United States.

Vietnam Superhawk

IN THE LATE '60s, WerBell turned his attention to Southeast Asia. He is, of course, a superhawk on Vietnam, and would be happy if the U.S. were also fighting communism in all its neighboring countries. He was in Thailand, "working closely with the supreme command," for months, promoting the sales of his weapons and systems. "I showed them things like surveillance equipment and night vision equipment, stuff that lets you surprise the hell out of the bastards." Did he do any fighting himself? WerBell chuckles. "I ain't supposed to be shooting the stuff, just demonstrating how to shoot it."

Three years ago, WerBell's weapons business became promising enough for him to go into it full time. He organized a firm called Sionics (for Studies [illegible] wounds inflicted.

There is his anti[illegible] [senti]ment, too. WerBell [illegible] fighting Communist menace. [illegible] a fight must be won and weapons are nee[ded] to win it.

Contrary to cynical opinion, Pow[der] Springs was not named to honor WerBell and his enterprise. [illegible] in fact, stays as aloof from the [illegible] community as possible. His house [is] well stocked, it is practically self-[suffi]cient save for occasional trips to grocery and liquor stores. There [have] been, from time to time, anti-Wer[Bell] feeling in Powder Springs. WerBell [de]clares, "The hell with it. Who care[s?] [I] tell 'em I'm prepared to purchase t[heir] property if they don't like the area."

He does not suffer from loneli[ness], however. There is a steady stream [of] visitors and customers, foreigners [as] well as Americans. A few weeks [ago] WerBell's son-in-law, an Air Force [lieu]tenant colonel, flew in from [illegible] mainly to see what was new at the shop; he hadn't been by in sev[eral] months, he said, "and things ch[ange] awfully quickly around here." [Whi]le I was there, the colonel and Wer[Bell] swapped ideas on ridding the State [De]partment of no-win policy makers on bringing the enemy to its knees [or] its grave, in Vietnam.

WerBell recalls with relish one par[ticular] visitor. He came from the S[tate] Department a few years back, and [ac]cording to WerBell, he said, "The f[unc]tions of the foreign policies of [the] United States are the business of [the] State Department in Washington, [not] of Mitchell WerBell in Pow[der] Springs, Georgia." WerBell's re[ply]: "You can't print it. It was all in A[nglo-]Saxon words." But that was the [old] swashbuckling WerBell. The new, [low-]profile WerBell says with a grin, "[My] present policy is that I agree with [that] theory completely. Period."

If actions to the contrary speak loudly, they, like WerBell's weap[ons], can always be suppressed by the [man] himself. Meanwhile, Mitch and his "[in]dependent group" march on.

©1970, Atlanta Magazine

4.3

F-72-79-?

C O N F I D E N T I A L 231530Z DEC 69 CITE CONTACTS/WASHINGTON 24675

CONTACTS/MIAMI

FROM MCCONNELL

JOHN GREANEY, OGC, WILL BE COMING TO MIAMI MONDAY, 8 DECEMBER, IN CONNECTION WITH THE TRIAL OF THE EIGHT INDIVIDUALS ALLEGEDLY INVOLVED IN THE BOMBING OF PORT-AU-PRINCE.

D A127700

NEW SUBJECT: MITCHELL LIVINGSTON WERBELL OF ATLANTA IS MENTIONED IN A (WASHINGTON POST) ARTICLE TODAY IN CONNECTION WITH ALLEGED RECEIPT OF GUNS SHIPPED FROM VIETNAM THROUGH EGLIN AIR FORCE BASE. MR. GREANEY SUGGESTS THAT YOU AVOID, IF POSSIBLE, ANY CONTACT WITH WERBELL.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

4.28

14-00000

SECRET F-12-79-09

ATTN : Director, Domestic Contact Service
OSS

15 May 1969

Chief, Miami Field Office

MIM-084-69

Local OSI Inquiry Regarding Information on Mitchell L. Werbell

1. On 15 May 1969, Special Agent Dave Plousen, local OSI representative, USAF, visited the Miami Field Office to solicit any information we might have regarding Mitchell L. Werbell who apparently is undergoing a security clearance check as the result of presently being employed by a company with a government contract.

2. Werbell was an unsolicited contact of this office beginning in 1959 and he reached peak notoriety in November 1967 as a result of his involvement in the Rolando Masferrer trial in connection with the abortive Haitian invasion. John Greaney, OGC was in Miami at the time to oversee Agency interests.

3. Plousen in contacting other US Government agencies locally including the US Attorney's Office somehow received an indication that CIA had information on Werbell; thus Plousen's visit to the Miami Field Office.

4. It was indicated to Plousen, who is known personally by several members of this staff, that we knew of Werbell and that on occasion he had reported unsolicited information. It was suggested, however, that Plousen direct his request officially through channels via OSI's agency liaison officer in Washington.

5. This is for background and is being forwarded at the suggestion of local CIA Security.

JUSTIN F. GLEICHAUF

FHogan:pmw

#29

File

Hill

F-12-79-00

[illegible] 24 March 1967

[illegible]: [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] Field Office

[illegible] A-127900

: [illegible]

1. [illegible] on 23 Mar 67 and then told [illegible] Gonzalez [illegible] federal charges [illegible]

2. [illegible] Counsel [illegible] he or you may [illegible]

[illegible]

Answered by phone - Advised Gleichauf no contact -
MSC 3/30/7

Copy sent to
Mr. Greaney, 28 Mar 67
req. I D
[illegible]

4.24

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

F-12-79-00

Director, Domestic Contact Service 24 March 1967

ATTN : John McConnell MIM-086-67

Chief, Miami Field Office

Mitchell L. WerBell /1 127900

REF : MIM-060-67

1. WerBell called the Miami office on 23 Mar 67 and when told that Bart Gonzales was not in, advised the secretary that the Federal charges against him had been dropped. We have not confirmed this. We do not intend to renew our contacts with him for the time being at least.

2. Please advise John Greaney of the Office of the General Counsel of this development and give us whatever recommendations he or you may have as to our future relations with WerBell.

JUSTIN F. GLEICHAUF

BFG:jw

4-25

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

14-00000

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ 12-77-00

Director, Domestic Contact Service 2 March 1967

ATTN : John McConnell MDM-060-67

Chief, Miami Field Office

Mitchell L. WerBell A 127900

1. You will recall that John Greaney of the Office of General Counsel was in Miami for several days in connection with the federal case pending against subject. WerBell was indicted on federal conspiracy charges growing out of the abortive invasion attempt of Haiti a short time ago.

2. Following the indictment WerBell called us and indicated that he was to be interviewed on "nationwide TV through station WSB-TV in Atlanta." We called Harry McCrea and asked him to monitor local coverage, and we covered the NBC stations for a period of several days. WerBell did not appear on a national hookup, but Harry McCrea informed us that he did appear on a two-minute taped segment on the WSB-TV, 6:25 A.M. telecast only. WerBell said he would, if he could, "make a citizen's arrest of Dwight Eisenhower, John McCone, et al, because he did no more than they did." Harry said that he didn't believe that the station took his statement seriously.

3. WerBell was also interviewed by "The Atlanta Constitution", and we are enclosing a clipping from the "Constitution" of 23 Feb 67 in which WerBell is quoted concerning the indictment.

4. Would you please pass the above to John Greaney. You might inform him that the statement of an undesignated federal official in Miami undoubtedly refers to the Customs agent in charge, with whom WerBell had a conversation prior to calling us. WerBell quoted him in the same fashion in our conversation. We have had no further contact with WerBell.

JUSTIN F. GLEICHAUF

JFG:pw

Enclosure:
As stated

4-22

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

F-12-79-00

~~SECRET~~

~~S E C R E T~~ 231432Z CITECONTACTS/MIAMI 1714

FEB 23 [illegible] 67

CONTACTS/WASHINGTON

ATTN: ~~JOHN MCCONNELL~~

SUBJECT: ALLEGED ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT

REF: A. MIAMI 1710 H-197900

B. MC CONNELL/OLEICHAUF TELCONS OF 21 FEB AND 23 FEB 67

MITCHELL WER BELL CALLED HANK GONZALES YESTERDAY TO ADVISE THAT HE HAD RECEIVED TWO PHONE CALLS FROM CHET GRAY EXPRESSING CONCERN OVER THE FACT THAT NO ONE HAD CONTACTED HIM FOR DETAILS CONCERNING THE ALLEGED ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT REFERRED TO IN MIAMI 1710. GRAY STATED THAT UNLESS HE HEARD FROM SOMEBODY IMMEDIATELY, HE WOULD TAKE HIS INFORMATION TO THE GOVERNOR OF CALIFORNIA ON THE MORNING OF 23 FEB 67. WE CURRENTLY HAVE AN ADDRESS FOR GRAY: 324 NORTH OAKHURST DRIVE, BEVERLY HILLS; TEL: 274-4922.

B-67-54

~~S E C R E T~~

BT

Copy F/# B-67-54 (Chet Gray)

~~SECRET~~

1e/

4.21

14-00000

Control
F-12-79-00

~~SECRET~~

DIARY, 23 February 1967

SUBJECT: Mitchell Werbell/Chet Gray

A-127900
Mitchell
B-67-54

Gleichauf called to say that Werbell had heard from Gray both yesterday and the day before expressing concern over the fact that no one had contacted him concerning the alleged assassination attempt against a foreign diplomat. Gray stated that unless he heard from someone immediately he would go to the Governor of California, 23 February. This information was passed to Sam Papich by phone.

B-67-41

cc: Chief, Miami Office

JMcConnell:mg

Copies F/ all Jackets!

4.20

F 12-79-00

~~SECRET~~

FEB 20 11 55 AM '67

~~S E C R E T~~ 201532Z CITE CONTACTS/MIAMI 1710

CONTACTS/WASHINGTON

ATTN: MCCONNELL

FROM: GLEICHAUF

A 127900

1. WE HAVE RECEIVED A MOST UNUSUAL PHONE CALL FROM MITCHELL VERBELL, POWDER SPRINGS, GEORGIA, DETAILS OF WHICH FOLLOW:

2. WERBELL IS A SOLDIER OF FORTUNE TYPE WHO HAS BEEN IN OCCASIONAL CONTACT WITH THIS OFFICE, OF HIS OWN VOLITION, SINCE 1959. WHILE AN UNSAVORY CHARACTER, MUCH OF THE INFORMATION HE HAS FURNISHED HAS PROVED TRUE. HE FURNISHED COMPLETE DETAILS ON THE RECENT HAITIAN INVASION PLAN. THE PHONE CALL WAS RECEIVED BY BART GONZALES FROM HIM AT 1100 HOURS ON 13 FEBRUARY. HE STATED THAT HE HAD JUST HAD A TELEPHONE CALL FROM CHET GRAY OF LOS ANGELES, NO ADDRESS (PHONE 274-4922).

file B-67-54

3. GRAY STATED THAT HE HAD BEEN APPROACHED REGARDING THE POSSIBLE ASSASSINATION IN THE U.S. OF A CLOSE RELATIVE, POSSIBLY A BROTHER OR SON, OF A MIDDLE-EAST RULER, WITHIN THE NEXT 10 DAYS. HE DID NOT FURNISH THE NAME OF THE ALLEGED VICTIM, NOR BY WHOM HE WAS APPROACHED. GRAY TOLD VERBELL THAT HE DID NOT WANT TO GET INVOLVED IN AN INCIDENT THAT MIGHT CAUSE INTERNATIONAL

FI # B-67-54 (Chet Gray)

4.19

PAGE 2 CONTACTS/MIAMI 1712 [redacted]

REPERCUSSIONS AND ASKED VERBELL FOR ADVICE. WER

BELL ADVISED GRAY

TO INFORM THE FBI IN LOS ANGELES, BUT GRAY WAS RELUCTANT TO DO SO. VERBELL THEN ASKED GRAY IF HE WOULD BE WILLING TO TALK WITH A MEMBER OF CIA AND GRAY AGREED. VERBELL TOLD GRAY THAT IF A REPRESENTATIVE OF CIA CONTACTED HIM, VERBELL'S NAME WOULD BE USED AS ENTREE.

4. THE ABOVE SOUNDS LIKE SOMETHING OUT OF THE "ARABIAN NIGHTS," BUT I DID MEET A CHET GRAY FROM LOS ANGELES AT A LOCAL CONTACT'S HOUSE IN 1962, SOME DETAILS OF WHICH ARE CONTAINED IN OOA(S)5601 AND OOA(S) 5598 DATED 18 DEC 62. GRAY IS A NOTORIOUS HOODLUM AND MIGHT EASILY HAVE BEEN APPROACHED FOR SUCH PURPOSE.

5. PLEASE HANDLE THE ABOVE AS YOU SEE FIT.

[redacted]

BT

F12-79-00

PRIORITY

CONFIDENTIAL

C O N F I D E N T I A L 231642Z CITE CONTACTS/MIAMI 1662

PRIORITY CONTACTS/WASHINGTON INFO PRIORITY JMWAVE DIRECTOR

ATTN: INT DIV (HELLER)

COUNTRY: HAITI

SUBJECT: MIMI 10756 - PROPOSED INVASION CANCELLED

DOI : 23 NOV 66 AND EARLIER

ACQ : ---23 NOV 66

REF : LA CIRL C-DC6-52851

C&S : MITCHELL L. WERBELL A 127900

POWDER SPRINGS, GEORGIA

U.S. NATIONAL, SOLDIER OF FORTUNE TYPE WITH WIDE EXPERIENCE IN LATIN AMERICA. HE IS CLOSELY ASSOCIATED WITH ROLANDO MASFERRER.

Nov 23 12 39 PM '66

(THIS REPORT WAS DEVELOPED BY A NAVY REPRESENTATIVE ASSIGNED TO THE OFFICE OF PREPARATION.)

1. DURING THE NIGHT OF 23 NOV 66 A DECISION WAS REACHED TO CALL OFF THE PROPOSED INVASION OF HAITI BY THE GROUP SPONSORED BY ROLANDO (MASFERRER). THE INVASION IS OFF INDEFINITELY.

2. FATHER JEAN BAPTISTE (GEORGES) AND COLONEL RENE (LEON) HAVE BEEN ARGUING WITH MASFERRER WHICH HAS CAUSED CONFUSION AND DISORGANIZATION IN THE MOVEMENT. MANY CUBANS SCHEDULED TO PARTICIPATE HAVE PULLED OUT AND MILITARY CHIEF NAPOLEON (VILLABOISE) (SIC), A CUBAN NATIONAL AND ALLEGED MILITARY EXPERT, HAS RESIGNED BECAUSE OF DISSENSION IN THE GROUP.

3. IT IS BELIEVED THAT U.S. GOVERNMENT AGENCIES HAVE INFILTRATED THE MOVEMENT AND THE LEADERS FEAR THAT ALL WEAPONS AND EQUIPMENT WOULD BE CONFISCATED IF PLANS FOR THE INVASION PROCEEDED.

END OF REPORT. 4.18

4. C/S: BARTOLO GONZALES. PLEASE PREPARE HARD COPY IN HEADQUARTERS.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

BT

1-12-79-00

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~ 222815Z CITE CONTACTS/MIAMI 1658

PRIORITY CONTACTS/WASHINGTON

ATTN: INT DIV (HELLER)

COUNTRY: HAITI

SUBJECT: MIMI 10706 - FALSE REPORTS OF INVASION/REPORTED CHANGE
OF PLANS

DOI : 22 NOV 66

ACQ : --22 NOV 66

~~CS~~ : MITCHELL L. WERBELL A-127900

POWDER SPRINGS, GEORGIA

U.S. NATIONAL, SOLDIER OF FORTUNE TYPE WITH WIDE EXPERIENCE IN LATIN AMERICA. HE IS CLOSELY ASSOCIATED WITH ROLANDO MASFERRER

NOV 22 4 22 PM '66

(THIS REPORT WAS DEVELOPED BY A NAVY REPRESENTATIVE ASSIGNED TO THE OFFICE OF PREPARATION.)

1. AS OF 22 NOV 66 IN SPITE OF WIDESPREAD PRESS REPORTS, NO INVASION OF HAITI HAS TAKEN PLACE.

2. ROLANDO (MASFERRER) ROJAS WHO IS SPONSORING THE ALLEGED INVASION, HAS BEEN TELLING CUBAN EXILES THAT HIS GROUP HAS SECURED THE AIRPORT AT PORT-DE-PAIX AND THEY SHOULD BE PREPARED TO LEAVE AT ANY TIME.

4.17

3. MASFERRER HAS GIVEN UP THE IDEA OF MOVING HIS GROUP, WHICH CONSISTS OF APPROXIMATELY 500 CUBANS AND 100 HAITIANS, BY BOAT AND IS TRYING TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR CHARTERING ELEVEN AIRCRAFT,

INCLUDINGSOME DC-3'S. ONE OF THE DC-3'S WOULD CARRY COLONEL RENE (LEON), MASFERRER, AND FATHER JEAN BATISTE GEORGES.

4. THE M/V HUDSON IS TO BE USED TO CARRY PART OF THE WEAPONS. THE MASFERRER GROUP IS WELL ARMED AND HAS PLENTY OF WEAPONS. THEY HAVE THREE TONS OF C-3 DYNAMITE, AND ALSO HAVE SOME C-2 AND C-4.

5. THE HENRIETTA II WILL CARRY PHOTOGRAPHERS.

6. IN SPITE OF THE ABOVE I BELIEVE THAT THE "INVASION" IS A FARCE AND IS FALLING APART. MASFERRER IS MERELY TRYING TO COVER UP FOR THE FUNDS HE HAS RECEIVED FOR THE INVASION. IT IS BELIEVED THAT MASFERRER'S LIFE WILL BE IN DANGER IF HE DOES NOT MAKE SOME OSTENSIBLE EFFORT. END OF REPORT.

7. C/S: B. GONZALES. PLEASE PREPARE HARD COPY IN HEADQUARTERS.

~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~

BT

CC: SUBJECT LINE FIRST PORTION AFTER MIMI NUMBR SHLD READ " FALSE RBPORTSPOF INVASION/"; AND PARA 6 LINE

RT SHLD REA

READ "THAT MASFERRER'S LIFE WILL BE IN DANGER IF"

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CONFIDENTIAL

F-12-79-00

SECRET

SECRET 011532 CITE CONTACTS/MIAMI 1642

CONTACTS/WASHINGTON

ATTN: INT DIV (ALTEA)

COUNTRY: HAITI/DOMINICAN REPUBLIC/BAHAMA

SUBJECT: MIMI 10856 - PLANNED INVASION OF HAITI BETWEEN 5-13 NOV 66

DOI : 28 OCT 66

ACQ : ---1 NOV 66

REF : DCS CASE 41535; LA CIRL C-DC6-52651

C&S : MITCHELL L. WERBELL A127900

POWDER SPRINGS, GEORGIA

U.S. NATIONAL WITH WIDE TRAVEL EXPERIENCE IN LATIN AMERICA. HE SPEAKS SOME SPANISH, AND HAS MANY SOCIAL AND BUSINESS CONTACTS IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.

NOV 1 12 11 PM '66

(THIS REPORT WAS DEVELOPED BY A NAVY REPRESENTATIVE ASSIGNED TO THE OFFICE OF PREPARATION.)

1. ON 28 OCT 66 I SPOKE WITH ROLANDO (MASFERRER) ROJAS, A CUBAN EXILE, AND HE TOLD ME THAT HE HAS ORGANIZED A MILITARY FORCE OF APPROXIMATELY 250 MEN TO INVADE HAITI. THE INVASION FORCE CONSISTS OF CUBAN AND HAITIAN EXILES RESIDING IN THE U.S., THE BAHAMA, AND THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC. THE INVASION WILL PROBABLY BE LAUNCHED FROM THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC SOMETIME BETWEEN 5 AND 13 NOVEMBER AND THE TARGET IS PORT-AU-PRINCE. THE INVASION FORCE WILL STRIKE IN THE EARLY HOURS OF THE MORNING SELECTED. IT IS WELL ARMED, AND WILL HAVE AIR COVER; THE PRESIDENTIAL PALACE WILL BE BOMBED.

4.16

2. MASFERRER STATED THAT EUGENE L. (MAXIMILIEN), HAITIAN CONSUL IN MIAMI, FLORIDA, IS AWARE OF THE INVASION, BUT HE HAS NO KNOWLEDGE OF THE INVASION DATE. MAXIMILIEN IS PRESENTLY IN HAITI INFORMING PRESIDENT (DUVALIER) THAT THE INVASION CAN BE PREVENTED BY PAYING OFF [illegible] TO MASFERRER. MAXIMILIEN WILL RETURN TO THE U.S. ON [illegible] NOVEMBER AND HE HAS AGREED WITH MASFERRER THAT IF DUVALIER AGREES TO THE PAY-OFF, MAXIMILIEN WILL RECEIVE [illegible] AND MASFE[illegible]

3. MASFERRER TOLD ME THAT THE INVASION WILL TAKE PLACE IN ANY EVENT AND THE $150,000, IF RECEIVED, WOULD BE USED TO FURTHER SUPPORT THE INVASION.

4. MASFERRER STATED THAT HE MET WITHIN THE PAST 10 DAYS WITH SEVERAL DISSIDENT HAITIAN ARMY OFFICERS AND HE HAD RECEIVED THEIR SUPPORT. THE HAITIAN ARMY OFFICERS TOLD MASFERRER THAT THEY WOULD REVOLT AS SOON AS INFORMED THAT THE INVASION HAD COMMENCED. THEY DO NOT KNOW THAT THE TARGET WILL BE PORT-AU-PRINCE; THEY BELIEVE THAT IT WILL BE IN THE CAP HAITIEN AREA.

5. MASFERRER STATED THAT HE WAS CONFIDENT THAT THE INVASION WILL SUCCEED, AND IF SUCCESSFUL, FATHER JEAN BAPTISTE (GEORGES) WOULD BE APPOINTED PROVISIONAL PRESIDENT. MASFERRER STATED THAT COLONEL RENE (LEON), HAITIAN EXILE, WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE INVASION. END OF REPORT.

6. C/S: B. F. GONZALES: PREPARE HARD COPY IN HEADQUARTERS PLEASE.

~~S E C R E T~~

BT

F-12-79-00

RR 6015

DE 0552/26 0131952

ZNY XXXXX

R131420Z

BT

XXXXX

ZERO THREE SEVEN WA

~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~ TDTG 131420Z

WA CITE MIAM 1223

ATTN: INTERNATIONAL DIV (CONANT)

COUNTRY: GUATEMALA

SUBJECT: MIMI DOTIC - ARMED FORCES COUP D'ETAT PLANNED

DOI: 12 JAN 66

ACQ: --12 JAN 66

REF: CIRL C-DCD-52374

CAS: MITCHELL L. WERBELL A-127900

POWDER SPRINGS, GEORGIA

U.S. NATIONAL WITH WIDE TRAVEL EXPERIENCE IN LATIN AMERICA. HE SPEAKS SOME SPANISH, AND HAS MANY SOCIAL AND BUSINESS CONTACTS IN LATIN AMERICA.

(THIS REPORT WAS DEVELOPED BY A NAVY REPRESENTATIVE ASSIGNED TO THE OFFICE OF PREPARATION.)

1. ON 12 JAN 66 MIGUELITO (COLOCHO) LAPARRA, SON OF THE FORMER PRESIDENT OF [illegible] GUATEMALAN ARMED 4.14

FORCES WERE PLANNING TO OVERTHROW COLONEL ENRIQUE (PERALTA) ON 15 JAN 66. YDIGORAS TOLD ME THAT IF THE COUP WAS NOT CARRIED OUT ON 15 JANUARY, IT WOULD BE EXECUTED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE THEREAFTER.

2. YDIGORAS WOULD NOT TELL ME THE NAMES OF THE INDIVIDUALS LEADING THE COUP, BUT STATED THAT "ALL OF THE ARMED FORCES WILL BE INVOLVED." END OF REPORT.

3. C/S: B. F. GONZALES. HARD COPY TO BE PREPARED BY HEADQUARTERS.

4.14

~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~

CFN 1288 CONANT GUATEMALA [illegible] COUP D'ETAT 12 JAN 66 12 JAN 66 CIRL C DC 5 52374 MITCHELL L WERBELL POWDER SPRINGS GEORGIA U S LATIN AMERICA SPANISH A [illegible] 12 JAN 66 MIGUEL(ITO) YDIGORAS LAPARRA COLONEL ENRIQUE PERALTA 15 JAN 66 COUP NOT CARRIED 15 JANUARY NOT TELL C S B F GONZALES

BT

1-19-66

12-79-00

PR 219

OL 2552/35 [illegible]

ZNY XXXXX

P042100Z

BT

XXXXX

ZERO ONE SIX WA

Group 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

[redacted] TDCS [illegible]

PRIORITY WA [illegible]

ATTN: [illegible] CONNELL

SUBJECT: RUMORED ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT ON FIDEL CASTRO

REF: AIR 677-59 OF 17 DEC 59

A 27900

1. MITCHELL WERBELL ADVISED BART GONZALES THAT A GROUP OF SIX MEN IN HIS ORGANIZATION HAS PENETRATED CUBA AND IS CURRENTLY IN THE VARADERO/HAVANA AREA. PRINCIPAL PURPOSE IS ASSASSINATION OF FIDEL CASTRO TO BE ATTEMPTED [illegible] 5-9 JANUARY. IF FOUND NOT POSSIBLE, SECONDARY TARGET WILL BE TO BLOW UP THE ELECTRIC PLANT FURNISHING ELECTRICITY TO HAVANA.

2. THE GROUP [illegible] AIRPLANE MODEL TYPE OF RADIO DETONATOR. THEY WERE UNABLE TO PROCURE CONTROLLED FREQUENCY RADIO DETONATORS WHICH WERE PREFERRED [illegible] OF HIGHER QUALITY. THE DETONATOR

ALLEGEDLY WILL BE [illegible] AT [illegible] WILL USE SUB-MACHINE GUNS IN THE COURSE OF A PUBLIC APPEARANCE BY CASTRO. NO INDICATION AS TO HOW THEY KNOW WHEN OR WHERE HE WILL APPEAR. GROUP SAID TO KNOW MISSION IS SUICIDAL.

3. ATTEMPT ON THE ELECTRIC PLANT WILL BE TO KILL GUARDS AND PENETRATE AREA FOLLOWING WHICH THEY WILL BLOW UP KEY EQUIPMENT.

4. WERBELL SAID THAT RECE ALSO ALLEGEDLY HAS A GROUP IN CUBA AT PRESENT FOR THE PURPOSE OF ASSASSINATING FIDEL CASTRO.

5. PLEASE HANDLE ABOVE AS YOU SEE FIT. FYI: WERBELL IS A NOTORIOUS CON MAN AND SOLDIER OF FORTUNE TYPE. HE IS CONSIDERED UNRELIABLE.

[redacted]

CFN 1268 NO CORNELL FIDEL CASTRO [illegible] 677 65 17 DEC 65 MITCHELL WERBELL BART GONZALES A CUBA VARADERO HAVANA [illegible] JANUARY NOT POSSIBLE UNABLE TO A NO INDICATION RECE A FYI A CON CONSIDERED UNRELIABLE

BT

4.12

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

F-81615

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Chief, Contact Division **DATE:** 2[illegible] July 1959
ATTN : Index Branch
FROM : Chief, Miami Field Office

A-81615

SUBJECT: Memorandum of Visit to Mitchell Warbell III
[illegible] Segovia Circle
Coral Gables, Florida

1. In the evening of 24 July 1959 I received a telephone call from subject, who had been given my name and address by another segment of the intelligence community in connection with the possibility of his passing along late information concerning the rumored impending flight of Batista to the US.

2. Warbell indicated that he spent a great amount of his time in the Dominican Republic and had extremely close association with leaders of the government, and also with General Jose Pedraza. He claimed to have been a former member of the OSS with service in China in WWII. Warbell is a soldier-of-fortune type who wears a monocle, drives a Mercedes-Benz, sports a most attractive blonde girl friend, and is a Big Spender. He also volunteered that he has a wife and six children living in Georgia.

3. Warbell told me that his principle source of income is in dealing with Cuban pesos, and said that he is associated in the business with a John Lipko of Los Angeles, a jazz musician who formerly played with the Jimmy Dorsey and Jan Garber bands.

4. Lipko also claims to have been a member of OSS during WWII, serving in the Hungarian and Eastern European area. Lipko was busily engaged in making long distance phone calls to Mexico City, Guatemala City, and Los Angeles during a part of the time I was with the group.

5. Warbell gave me some information on Batista's plans, which is basically supposition, and furnished some other marginal information which is being forwarded, although in my opinion little credence can be placed in anything he says. It is hard to evaluate what Warbell's motives are in connection with his desire to furnish information regarding Batista to us, but it appeared that he was also attempting to fish for information, throwing out a number of questions concerning the Biltmore Terrace Hotel, reportedly recently to have been purchased by Cuban interests with 9 million Cuban pesos. The penthouse reportedly has been completely redecorated, with heavy steel doors guarding the entrance. This penthouse suite has been rumored to be Batista's intended headquarters once he arrives in the US. All of this has been written about in the gossip columns of the local papers.

6. Inasmuch as Warbell has my name and phone number, probably little can be done to prevent him getting in touch with me from time to time, but contact will not be initiated by me except by direction. The basic purpose of this memo is for the record.

[illegible] GLEICHAUF

JFG:sm

14-00000

SECRET
(When Filled In)

PROCESS SHEET FOR DOMESTIC CONTACT SERVICE COLLECTIONS

FOR FIELD USE ONLY					FOR HEADQUARTERS USE ONLY	
A. FIELD OFFICE	B. REPORT NUMBER	C. REQ. CODE	D. CASE NUMBER	E.	RECEIVED	
XMIMI	10756				11236	B 1911266

F. SUBJECT AND AREA

Proposed Invasion Cancelled

Haiti

RELEASED: 11 28 6

G. CONTACT (Name, Title, Organization, Address)

Mitchell L. Werbell
Powder Springs, Georgia

INDIVIDUAL NO.

H. SOURCE (Name, Title, Organization, Address)

SAME

ORGANIZATION NO.

INDIVIDUAL NO.

ORGANIZATION NO.

I. SUB-SOURCE (Name, Title, Organization, Address)

INDIVIDUAL NO.

ORGANIZATION NO.

J. METHOD OF COLLECTION

☐ Interview ☐ Trip Report
☐ Other Document ☐ Other (specify below)

EVALUATION REQUESTED FROM

USSR ONLY EXCHANGES (CHECK ONE): ☐ NO ☐ TO USSR ☐ FROM USSR

RESPONSIVE TO SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS: ✓

FIELD COMMENTS

HEADQUARTERS COMMENTS

4.10

C/S	F.O. Chief	Case Officer	Division/Staff/Desk
EGonzales	JGleichauf	RHeller for Alyea	LRSaltzer

FORM 3-66 25 Obsolete previous editions

SECRET

3

14-00000

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

CONTROLLED DISSEM ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ NO DISSEM ABROAD

COUNTRY	Haiti	REPORT NO.	OO-B-321/19112-66
SUBJECT	Proposed Invasion Cancelled	DATE DISTR.	30 Nov 66
		NO. PAGES	1
		REFERENCES	This report was previously disseminated as TD-OOB-321/19112-66
DATE OF INFO.	23 Nov 66 and earlier		
PLACE & DATE ACQ.	--- 23 Nov 66		

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE: US national, soldier of fortune type with wide experience in Latin America. He is closely associated with Rolando Masferrer.

[This report was developed by a Navy representative assigned to the office of preparation.]

1. During the night of 22 Nov 66 a decision was reached to call off the proposed invasion of Haiti by the group sponsored by Rolando Masferrer. The invasion is off indefinitely.

2. Father Jean Baptiste Georges and Colonel Rene Leon have been arguing with Masferror which has caused confusion and disorganization in the movement. Many Cubans scheduled to participate have pulled out and military chief Napoleon Villaboise (sic), a Cuban national and alleged military expert, has resigned because of dissension in the group.

3. It is believed that US Government agencies have infiltrated the movement and the leaders fear that all weapons and equipment would be confiscated if plans for the invasion proceeded.

- end -

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

5 4 3 2 1 S-YES U-YES 5 4 3 2 1

GROUP 1 Excluded from automatic downgrading and declassification

APPROVED FOR RELEASE 1994
CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

4.10

14-00000

SECRET
(When Filled In)

12-29-00

PROCESS SHEET FOR DOMESTIC CONTACT SERVICE COLLECTIONS

FOR FIELD USE ONLY / FOR HEADQUARTERS USE ONLY

A. FIELD OFFICE	B. REPORT NUMBER	C. REQ CODE	D. CASE NUMBER	E.	RECEIVED MO DA YR		RELEASED
XMIMI	10706				11226	1906766 B	11236

F. SUBJECT AND AREA

False Reports of Invasion/Reported Change of Plans (Haiti)

G. CONTACT (Name, Title, Organization, Address)

Mitchell L. Werbell
Powder Springs, Georgia

INDIVIDUAL NO. A-127900

H. SOURCE (Name, Title, Organization, Address)

Same as above

I. SUB-SOURCE (Name, Title, Organization, Address)

J. METHOD OF COLLECTION

- Interview
- Trip Report
- Other Document
- Other (specify below)

EVALUATION REQUESTED FROM

USSR ONLY EXCHANGES (CHECK ONE): NO / TO USSR / FROM USSR

RESPONSIVE TO SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS: D117

FIELD COMMENTS

HEADQUARTERS COMMENTS

I don't believe you could have covered the "invasion" better if you had used an umbrella. An excellent job, I think.
heller

Cat
rl
4.9

C/S	F.O. Chief	Case Officer	Division/Staff/Desk
RGonzales	JFGleichauf	RHeller	LBSaltzer

FORM 66 25 Obsolete previous editions

SECRET

3

(20-41)

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

CONTROLLED DISSEM [redacted] NO DISSEM ABROAD

COUNTRY	Haiti	REPORT NO.	00- B-321/19067-66
SUBJECT	False Reports of Invasion/Reported Change of Plans	DATE DISTR.	28 Nov 66
		NO. PAGES	1
		REFERENCES	This report was previously disseminated as TD-00-B-321/19067-66
DATE OF INFO.	22 Nov 66		
PLACE & DATE ACQ.	--/22 Nov 66		

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE: US national, soldier of fortune type with wide experience in Latin America. He is closely associated with Rolando Masferrer.

[This report was developed by a Navy representative assigned to the office of preparation.]

1. As of 22 Nov 66 in spite of widespread press reports, no invasion of Haiti has taken place.

2. Rolando Masferrer Rojas who is sponsoring the alleged invasion, has been telling Cuban exiles that his group has secured the airport at Port-de-Paix and they should be prepared to leave at any time.

3. Masferrer has given up the idea of moving his group, which consists of approximately 300 Cubans and 100 Haitians, by boat and is trying to make arrangements for chartering eleven aircraft, including some DC-3's. One of the DC-3's would carry Colonel Rene Leon, Masferrer, and Father Jean Batiste Georges.

4. The M/V Hudson is to be used to carry part of the weapons. The Masferrer group is well armed and has plenty of weapons. They have three tons of C-3 dynamite, and also have some C-2 and C-4.

5. The Henrietta II will carry photographers.

6. In spite of the above I believe that the "invasion" is a farce and is falling apart. Masferrer is merely trying to cover up for the funds he has received for the invasion. It is believed that Masferrer's life will be in danger if he does not make some ostensible effort.

- end -

5 4 3 2 1 [redacted] 5 4 3 2 1

S-YES U-YES

GROUP 1 Excluded from automatic downgrading and declassification

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

4.9

14-00000

~~SECRET~~
(When Filled In)

12-79-00

PROCESS SHEET FOR DOMESTIC CONTACT SERVICE COLLECTIONS

FOR FIELD USE ONLY — FOR HEADQUARTERS USE ONLY

A. FIELD OFFICE	B. REPORT NUMBER	C. REQ. CODE	D. CASE NUMBER	E.	RECEIVED (MO. DA. YR.)		
XMINI				X	04197	1146767	

F. SUBJECT AND AREA
Request for Arms

(Venezuela)

RELEASED: 04257

G. CONTACT (Name, Title, Organization, Address)
Mitchell L. WERBELL
Powder Springs
Georgia

INDIVIDUAL NO.

ORGANIZATION NO.

TYPE OO-E: R (GRAPHICS, MAPS, PUBLICATIONS, REPORTS, OTHER)

H. SOURCE (Name, Title, Organization, Address)
Same

INDIVIDUAL NO.

ORGANIZATION NO.

I. SUB-SOURCE (Name, Title, Organization, Address)

INDIVIDUAL NO.

ORGANIZATION NO.

J. METHOD OF COLLECTION
[XX] Interview
[ ] Trip Report
[ ] Other Document
[ ] Other (specify below)

EVALUATION REQUESTED FROM

USSR ONLY EXCHANGES (CHECK ONE): NO / TO USSR / FROM USSR

RESPONSIVE TO SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

FIELD COMMENTS

HEADQUARTERS COMMENTS

JOIC (L. Shoemaker)

08 MAY 1967

4.8

C/S JFGleichauf:ps

F.O. Chief JFG RICHARDS

Case Officer

Division/Staff/Desk

FORM 3-66 25 Obsolete previous editions

CONTROLLED DISSEM [redacted] NO DISSEM ABROAD

COUNTRY	Venezuela	REPORT NO.	OO- B-324/11467-67
SUBJECT	Request for Arms	DATE DISTR.	27 Apr 67
		NO. PAGES	1
		REFERENCES	LA CIRL C-DC6-53134

DATE OF INFO. Apr 67 and earlier

PLACE & DATE ACQ. ---/Apr 67 and earlier

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE US national, soldier of fortune type, with wide experience in Latin America.

1. In April 1967 I was approached by a prominent Venezuelan whom I prefer not to identify. He asked me to arrange procurement of 150-300 9 mm sub-machine guns, with 1-2000 rounds per gun. Delivery was to be "as soon as possible".

2. He did not identify the group for whom they were being obtained but indicated it was a "right wing operation".

3. I told him I was unable to be of assistance.

-end-

5 4 3 2 1

5 4 3 2 1

08 MAY 1967

U YES [redacted] S YES

SECRET
(When Filled In)

12-79.00

PROCESS SHEET FOR DOMESTIC CONTACT SERVICE COLLECTIONS

FOR FIELD USE ONLY				FOR HEADQUARTERS USE ONLY	
A. FIELD OFFICE	B. REPORT NUMBER	C. REG. CODE	D. CASE NUMBER	RECEIVED	
XMIHI	10086		~~41369~~ Closed	11016	1787966

F. SUBJECT AND AREA

Planned Invasion of Haiti Between 5-13 Nov 66

Haiti/Dominican Republic/Bahamas

RELEASED: 11036

G. CONTACT (Name, Title, Organization, Address)

Mitchell L. Werbell
Powder Springs, Georgia

INDIVIDUAL NO. A-127900

H. SOURCE (Name, Title, Organization, Address)

SAME

I. SUB-SOURCE (Name, Title, Organization, Address)

J. METHOD OF COLLECTION

- [ ] Interview
- [ ] Trip Report
- [ ] Other Document
- [ ] Other (specify below)

EVALUATION REQUESTED FROM

USSR ONLY EXCHANGES (CHECK ONE): NO / TO USSR / FROM USSR

RESPONSIVE TO SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS: 035

FIELD COMMENTS

P
pl

HEADQUARTERS COMMENTS

Although these rumored invasions have occurred before, this report was of interest to OCI, and I suspect, others: One of these times it will happen.

4.7

C/S	F.O. Chief	Case Officer	Division/Staff/Desk
RGonzales	JJLeichauf	GAlyea GEA	LEShitser

FORM 3-66 25 Obsolete previous editions

SECRET

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

CONTROLLED DISSEM ~~SECRET~~ NO DISSEM ABROAD

COUNTRY	Haiti/Dominican Republic/ Bahamas	REPORT NO.	OO- B-321/17879-66
SUBJECT	Planned Invasion of Haiti between 5-13 Nov 66	DATE DISTR.	7 Nov 66
		NO. PAGES	1
		REFERENCES	This report was previously disseminated as TD-OOB-321/17879-66
DATE OF INFO.	28 Oct 66		CIRL C-DO6-52851
PLACE & DATE ACQ.	---1 Nov 66		

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE: US national with wide travel experience in Latin America. He speaks some Spanish, and has many social and business contacts in the Dominican Republic.

[This report was developed by a Navy representative assigned to the office of preparation.]

1. On 28 Oct 66 I spoke with Rolando Masferrer Rojas, a Cuban exile, and he told me that he has organized a military force of approximately 250 men to invade Haiti. The invasion force consists of Cuban and Haitian exiles residing in the US, the Bahamas, and the Dominican Republic. The invasion will probably be launched from the Dominican Republic sometime between 5 and 13 November and the target is Port-au-Prince. The invasion force will strike in the early hours of the morning selected. It is well armed, and will have air cover; the presidential palace will be bombed.

2. Masferrer stated that Eugene L. Maximilien, Haitian Consul in Miami, Florida, is aware of the invasion, but he has no knowledge of the invasion date. Maximilien is presently in Haiti informing President Duvalier that the invasion can be prevented by paying off $200,000 to Masferrer. Maximilien will return to the US on 3 November and he has agreed with Masferrer that if Duvalier agrees to the pay-off, Maximilien will receive $50,000 and Masferrer $150,000.

3. Masferrer told me that the invasion will take place in any event and the $150,000, if received, would be used to further support the invasion.

4. Masferrer stated that he met within the past 10 days with several dissident Haitian army officers and he had received their support. The Haitian army officers told Masferrer that they would revolt as soon as informed that the invasion had commenced. They do not know that the target will be Port-au-Prince; they believe that it will be in the Cap Haitien area.

5. Masferrer stated that he was confident that the invasion will succeed, and if successful, Father Jean Baptiste Georges would be appointed provisional president. Masferrer stated that Colonel Rene Leon, Haitian exile, will participate in the invasion.

- end -

~~SECRET~~

S-YES U-YES

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

14-00000

(When Filled In) 12-79-00

PROCESS SHEET FOR DOMESTIC CONTACT SERVICE COLLECTIONS

FOR FIELD USE ONLY / FOR HEADQUARTERS USE ONLY

A FIELD OFFICE	B REPORT NUMBER	C	D CASE NUMBER	E	RECEIVED		
XMIMI	09156		46267	X	10136	164176	

F SUBJECT AND AREA

Report on the Dominican Republic

(Dominican Republic)

RELEASED 10176

G CONTACT (Name, Title, Organization, Address)

Mitchell L. Werbell
Powder Springs, Georgia

INDIVIDUAL NO. A 127904

H SOURCE (Name, Title, Organization, Address)

DOCUMENTARY

I SUB-SOURCE (Name, Title, Organization, Address)

J METHOD OF COLLECTION

- Interview
- Trip Report
- Other Document
- Other (specify below)

EVALUATION REQUESTED FROM | RESPONSIVE TO REQUIREMENTS

FIELD COMMENTS

Source stated that he received a copy of the attached report from Rolando Masferrer Rojas, former Cuban Senator. Masferrer told source that the report was written by Manuel "Fatty" Garcia, a Cuban exile. The report contains information on the political, military, Communist and economic situation in the Dominican Republic, as well as information on the elections held on 1 Jun 66.

HEADQUARTERS COMMENTS

For Retention

4.6

BJGonzales:ab | JFCLETCHART

14-00000

~~SECRET~~ (When Filled In)

12-79-00

PROCESS SHEET FOR DOMESTIC CONTACT SERVICE COLLECTIONS

FOR FIELD USE ONLY

FOR HEADQUARTERS USE ONLY

A. FIELD OFFICE | B. REPORT NUMBER | C. FORWARDED MO. DA. YR. | D. CASE NUMBER | E. | RECEIVED MO. DA. YR. | RELEASED MO. DA. YR.

F. SUBJECT AND AREA

Armed Forces Coup d'Etat Planned

G. CONTACT (Name, Title, Organization, Address)

INDIVIDUAL NO. 0127900

ORGANIZATION NO.

H. SOURCE (Name, Title, Organization, Address)

INDIVIDUAL NO.

ORGANIZATION NO.

I. SUB SOURCE (Name, Title, Organization, Address)

INDIVIDUAL NO.

ORGANIZATION NO.

TYPE DOE: GRAPHICS, MAPS, PUBLICATIONS, REPORTS, OTHER

NOT DISSEMINATED

SUBJECT

AREA

J. METHOD OF COLLECTION

☐ Debriefing ☐ Trip Report

☐ Other Document ☐ Other (specify below)

FIELD COMMENTS:

HEADQUARTERS COMMENTS

28 FEB 1965

Request For Evaluation ☐ Yes ☐ No 4.5

C/ | F.O. Chief | Case Officer | Division / Staff / Desk

FORM 1-63 25 Obsolete previous editions

13-00000

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

CONTROLLED DISSEM ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ NO DISSEM ABROAD

COUNTRY	Guatemala	REPORT NO.	00-B-321/00782-66
SUBJECT	Armed Forces Coup d'Etat Planned	DATE DISTR.	20 Jan 66
		NO. PAGES	1
		REFERENCES	CIRL 0-DCS-52374

DATE OF INFO. 12 Jan 66

PLACE & DATE ACQ. ---/12 Jan 66

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE: US national with wide travel experience in Latin America. He speaks some Spanish, and has many social and business contacts in Latin America, but his realiability is not of the highest.

/This report was developed by a Navy representative assigned to the office of preparation./

1. On 12 Jan 66 Miguelito Ydigoras Laparra, son of the former President of Guatemala, told me that Guatemalan Armed Forces were planning to overthrow Colonel Enrique Peralta on 15 Jan 66. Ydigoras told me that if the coup was not carried out on 15 January, it would be executed as soon as possible thereafter.

2. Ydigoras would not tell me the names of the individuals leading the coup, but stated that "all of the Armed Forces will be involved."

- end -

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

S-YES 8 FEB 1966 U-YES

GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic downgrading and declassification

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

SECRET
(When Filled In)

12-29-66

PROCESS SHEET FOR DOMESTIC CONTACT SERVICE COLLECTIONS

FOR FIELD USE ONLY | FOR HEADQUARTERS USE ONLY

A. FIELD OFFICE | B. REPORT NUMBER | C. FORWARDED (MO, DA, YR) | D. CASE NUMBER | E. | RECEIVED (MO, DA, YR) | REPORT NO.

F. SUBJECT AND AREA

Possible [illegible] and / [illegible]

[illegible]

EXTRA DISSEM RECORD | RELEASED (MO, DA, YR)

G. CONTACT (Name, Title, Organization, Address)

[illegible]

INDIVIDUAL NO. [illegible]

TYPE DOC: GRAPHICS, MAPS, PUBLICATIONS, REPORTS, OTHER | PHOTO DISSEMINATED

ORGANIZATION NO.

SUBJECT | AREA

H. SOURCE (Name, Title, Organization, Address)

INDIVIDUAL NO.

ORGANIZATION NO.

I. SUB-SOURCE (Name, Title, Organization, Address)

INDIVIDUAL NO.

ORGANIZATION NO.

J. METHOD OF COLLECTION

☐ Debriefing ☐ Trip Report

☐ Other Document ☐ Other (specify below)

FIELD COMMENTS

HEADQUARTERS COMMENTS

14 JAN [illegible]

APPROVED FOR RELEASE 1994
CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM

Request For Evaluation ☐ Yes ☐ No

4.4

CO	F.O. Chief	Case Officer	Division / Staff / Desk
			E. [illegible]

FORM 1-65 [illegible] Obsolete previous editions

SECRET

3

~~SECRET~~

(When Filled In)

12-79-00

PROCESS SHEET FOR DOMESTIC CONTACT SERVICE COLLECTIONS

FOR FIELD USE ONLY

A. FIELD OFFICE	B. REPORT NUMBER	C. FORWARDED (MO / DA / YR)	D. CASE NUMBER	E
1–5	6–10	11–15	16–20	21
[illegible]	[illegible] 5 [illegible]	[illegible]		

FOR HEADQUARTERS USE ONLY

RECEIVED (MO / DA / YR)	REPORT NO. (B / C / A / OTHER)		I U O
22–26	27–33	34	35

F. SUBJECT AND AREA

55 Photo[illegible] Taken [illegible]

[illegible]

(Cuba)

	EXTRA DISSEM RECORD	RELEASED (MO / DA / YR)
36	37 38 39	40 41 42 43 44

G. CONTACT (Name, Title, Organization, Address)

[illegible]

[illegible], Georgia

New

INDIVIDUAL NO. A-127900

ORGANIZATION NO.

45	TYPE OO E	46	NOT DISSEMINATED
	GRAPHICS, MAPS, PUBLICATIONS, REPORTS, OTHER		

H. SOURCE (Name, Title, Organization, Address)

[illegible]

INDIVIDUAL NO.

ORGANIZATION NO.

I. SUB-SOURCE (Name, Title, Organization, Address)

INDIVIDUAL NO.

ORGANIZATION NO.

SUBJECT 47	48	49	50		AREA 51	52	53	54
0	E	C	O	1. VERY SIGNIFICANT INTELLIGENCE	1	S	O	V
1	S	B	I	2. TOO GENERAL	2	N	O	N
2	P	O	L	3. DATA SUPPLIED BY OTHER AGENCIES	3			
3	M	I	L		4			
4				4. OTHER / MISC				
5	S	O	C	5. COMBINED WITH				
6	G	E	O	6. INSUFFICIENT INTEREST				
7	B	I	O					
8								
9	M	I	S					

J. METHOD OF COLLECTION

☐ Debriefing ☐ Trip Report

☐ Other Document ☐ Other (specify below)

FIELD COMMENTS

[illegible]

HEADQUARTERS COMMENTS

24 JAN 1966

Request For Evaluation ☐ Yes ☐ No

4.3

Case Officer

Division

FORM 1-65 Obsolete previous editions

~~SECRET~~

F-12-79-00

PRESENTATION FORM FOR GRAPHIC MATERIAL

(Submit to HQ-OCR in triplicate with process sheet attached)

DIST: ORIG-GRAPHICS. DUPL-CASE FILE. TRIPL-SOURCE FILE. QUAD-TO RECORD

DATE: 13 December 1965

[XXX] GIFT [ ] LOAN

AREA: Camarioca, Cuba A-127900 Mitchell L. Werbell

SUBJECT: Photo prints taken in Camarioca Harbor and immediate vicinity

NUMBER OF ITEMS AND CATEGORY (Still photographs, negatives, or slides): 56 B&W prints

DATE OF EXPOSURE: 1 to 7 Nov 65

CAMERA OR FOCAL LENGTH:

CHECK CLASSIFICATION OF PHOTOGRAPHS WHEN SEPARATED FROM THIS FORM. (The classification need not be the same.)

[ ] FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY [ ] SECRET

[XX] CONFIDENTIAL [ ] UNCLASSIFIED

BRIEF SOURCE DESCRIPTION

US national with wide travel experience in the Caribbean Islands, especially in the Dominican Republic. He speaks some Spanish.

IS SOURCE APT TO MAKE ADDITIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC MATERIAL AVAILABLE? [XXXX] Yes [ ] No

MAY SOURCE'S NAME BE REVEALED TO GRAPHICS REGISTER, OCR, IF REQUIRED? [XXX] Yes [ ] No

DESCRIPTION OF MATERIAL

56 Black and white phot prints (3 and 1/2 X 5) taken with a 35mm camera.

4.2

IF ADDITIONAL SPACE IS REQUIRED USE BLANK PAPER

FOR HEADQUARTERS USE ONLY

DOC NO.	CASE NO.	DATE REASSIGNED TO CR BY CHP
22507-65		
CR CONTROL NO.		

NEGATIVE FILM NO.

FORM 121 USE PREVIOUS EDITIONS

81615

SECRET

PROCESS SHEET FOR OO/C COLLECTIONS

FOR FIELD USE ONLY | FOR HEADQUARTERS USE

Suggested Series	A. Field Office	B. Report Number	C. Forwarded	D. Case Number	E.	Received
A	XMIM	I0019307279			X	0130921 6292

F. SUBJECT AND AREA

Impending Flight of Batista/Pedraza Expeditionary Force

(CUBA/DOMINICAN REPUBLIC)

Released: 07E17

G. CONTACT (Name, Title, Organization, Address or 'Y' Number)

Mitchell Werbell III
2211 Segovia Circle
Coral Gables, Florida

New A# 81615

H. SOURCE (Name, Title, Organization, Address or 'Y' Number)

Same as above

I. SUB-SOURCE (Name, Title, Organization, Address)

J. EXTRA DISSEMINATION CONTROL MAY BE RELEASED ON NEED TO KNOW TO:

	O.K. AS IS	DELETE PART 2 OF S.D.	DELETE ENTIRE S.D.
1. Approved list of CIA consultants	✓ 1	4	7
2. Approved external projects	✓ 2	5	8
3. Non-IAC agencies for NIS studies	✓ 3	6	9

NOT DISSEMINATED
1. Already sufficiently well known
2. Too general
3. Type data supplied regularly by other agencies
4. Other/miscellaneous
5. Combined with

FIELD REMARKS

EDITORIAL COMMENT

97

SECRET

FIELD OFFICE CASE STATUS

THIS REPORT RESPONSIVE TO REQUIREMENTS FROM (OFFICE OR AGENCY):

EXPECT ADDITIONAL INFORMATION WITHIN (DAYS):

FINAL REPORT ON THIS CASE YES NO

JFGleichauf:cn   CHIEF JFGleichauf   EDITOR   BRANCH STAFF CHIEF

FORM 25 OBSOLETE PREVIOUS EDITIONS   2   (20-41)

2-77-00

ATL-32-74
28 February 1974

Chief, Domestic Collection Division
Attn: Support Branch/OSS (Grant)

Chief, Washington Field Office
Atlanta Resident Office

Resume of Contacts with Stephen Van Cleave

#132014 A-127900

1. Jack Hennessy, Miami Field Office, called on 21 January 1974
to give us a source lead on Stephen Van Cleave and Mitch Werbell, both
from Atlanta, Georgia. Jack briefed us on past Miami contacts with
Van Cleave and suggested we might want to contact him concerning his
activities in Argentina. At that time we were in the process of moving
the office to the present location so did not contact Van Cleave until
25 January 1974. On that date we called, identified ourselves and briefly
explained the reason for the call. His first question was, "Do you know
Mitch Werbell and does this have anything to do with him?" We answered
him we did not know Werbell, and our interest was not related to him.
Van Cleave suggested we come to his office at 1:00 that afternoon.

2. We arrived shortly before 1:00 at his office in 171 N. [illegible] Rd.
N.E., Atlanta, Georgia. Van Cleave has a one room office in a modern
building located in a moderate to high rent district of Atlanta. After
presenting credentials and a business card we asked if we might tape the
interview. He said he preferred we tape this as well as any future
transactions as he wanted to be absolutely sure any information he gave
was reported accurately. Enclosure No. 1 is a rough draft of the
first interview. The actual tape has been erased. Some of this information
was reported in OO-A(S)-322/03835-74, Secret, CIA Internal Use Only.

3. On 9 February 1974 we received a call from Van Cleave at home. He
wanted to report in detail on a recent trip to Oakland, California, where
he had supposedly met with police officials and discussed the Hearst
kidnapping, the SLA, etc. We told him this was very interesting but not
CIA business.

4. Van Cleave called again on 25 February 1974 to fill us in on a
visit to the US by Argentine police officials and an operational opportunity
in the Bahamas. We prepared this information for dissemination as
OO-A(S)'s. In view of recent developments we assume neither report should
be disseminated. To complete your record of contacts, both reports are
enclosed as Enclosures No.'s 2 and 3 (disregard the Atlanta report numbers,
they will be used for future reporting or cancelled).

E 2 IMPDET CL BY 010650

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ATL-39-74
28 February 1974

5. In the meantime the Reg Murphy kidnapping came up to occupy his
time until 26 February when he called to say he had some sensitive
information of definite interest to CIA. When told we could not come
into his office the following day due to a lack of transportation, he
said he would come to our office. We reluctantly agreed. Late the
morning of 27 February he came to our office and presented us with the
information in Enclosure No. 4 (rough draft--the tape will be saved in
case it is needed at a later date).

6. Not on the transcript, but of possible interest, before leaving
our office he said he was afraid he might be fired by Coca Cola on
4 March 1974. Briefly, what apparently happened (and this is his story)
was:

a. When it was learned Reg Murphy had been kidnapped,
Chief John Inman of the Atlanta Police Department called
Von Cleave requesting his assistance. He asked Van Cleave to
come to headquarters and work with Assistant Chief Mullins (we
believe this is the correct name) on the Murphy kidnapping;

b. Van Cleave apparently expressed concern to the
Assistant Chief that prominent members of Coca Cola Company
residing in the Atlanta area might be targets for the same
kidnappers;

c. The Assistant Chief agreed and went along with Van
Cleave notifying, by phone, Coke officials;

d. Van Cleave had not cleared this action with his
immediate supervisor at the Coca Cola Company;

e. Apparently the phone calls were made very late in the
evening;

f. When the Murphy kidnapping was resolved, Van Cleave
was called in by his boss to account for his actions. He
apparently has not been able to justify the calls and this
will be discussed at the meeting on 4 March. We suspect this
may be his last official action for the Coca Cola Company.

E 2 IMPDET CL BY 010650

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ATL-30-74
28 February 1974

7. Since receiving the 27 February 1974 call from OSS, we have checked with Charles Haynes and Bob Perry of the FBI. Both are familiar with Van Cleave and his operations. Perry confirmed that Van Cleave had passed the information contained in Enclosure No. 4 to the FBI. Perry had a few other things to say about Van Cleave that probably do not need to be repeated in this memorandum.

8. Concerning the future, we intend to be hard to reach when Van Cleave calls; if necessary, talk to him on the phone a few times to see if he gets the idea; then if all fails simply tell him we have been told to stay out of this business.

A. G. CON[illegible]

WDFangburn:[illegible]

Enclosures
(as stated)

E 2 IMPDET CL BY 010650

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ATL-4-75
14 January 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

John R. Peterson
Atlanta Resident Office

Response to Call-in to Agency Headquarters/Initial Contact (Telephone) with John Daniel Williamson, Carrollton, Georgia

1. On 7 January 1975 Albert S. Coleman of the Washington Field Office called us to pass on information that he had just been given by Dale Zeimer, DCD Headquarters, regarding a call received by the Agency duty officer on New Year's Eve from one John Daniel Williamson of Carrollton, Georgia. Williamson identified himself as a Methodist minister and gave his address as Route #2, Box 3546, Carrollton, Georgia, Phone: (404) 854-0443.

2. In his call to Agency Headquarters, Williamson said that he had a friend who had information on the impending overthrow of a foreign government. The information regarded illegal shipment of arms from the US to the foreign country. Williamson said that his friend had wanted to try to sell the information to the foreign country concerned but that when the friend told Williamson about it Williamson prevailed on him to let him (Williamson) bring it to the attention of the proper government agency, resulting in his call to our headquarters on New Year's Eve. Williamson asked that someone from the Agency be put in contact with him.

3. On the afternoon of 7 January 1975, after verifying through the phone operator that Williamson was listed in the Carrollton area (he actually lives at Roopville, Georgia, on True Road, but the Roopville phones are handled under the Carrollton exchange), we called his number. We were informed by a young male voice, apparently his son, that Williamson was indeed a Methodist minister, but that he taught school every day during the week in the high school at Franklin, Georgia, except on Saturdays when he worked all day at a hardware store at Rockmart, Georgia. We were told that he preached on Sunday mornings. We were not told what he does on Sunday afternoons. Since he was not to be at home until after 5 PM, we called him from our own home that same evening.

4. Williamson seemed to be expecting our call although we had not identified ourselves during the earlier call. He gave us essentially the same information furnished during his New Year's Eve call. He said that the friend about whom he called is a "former parishioner and lives in the Carrollton area." He preferred not to provide us with the friend's name and address. The information, however—that which we were able to ascertain--sounded on the up-and-up, as far as Mr. Williamson's part in it was concerned, for he seemed to be a sincere and well intentioned individual. When we tried to at least learn the name of the foreign country involved, Williamson said that his friend would not give him that information. 4.51

E 2 IMPDET CL BY 010650

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ATL-4-75
14 January 1975

5. We did learn that the friend whom Williamson described as a business consultant, "a kind of a high-finance man involved in setting up corporations," who often travels abroad, had been approached by someone "locally," i.e., in the Carrollton-West Atlanta area (Carrollton is about 40 miles west of Atlanta). The friend was said to be "a good friend, a reliable man, a college graduate, an established man in the community." According to Williamson, the friend was approached because of the nature of his work to perform some sort of task for the group, and he knew that something was wrong. The friend then learned all he could about the planned operation and eventually talked with Williamson about it. The friend told Williamson that the gun-running operation had been going on for about a year.

6. At one point Williamson said that his friend told him that "the people involved in this thing won't hesitate to kill him (the friend) and he knows that he's going to have to leave this part of the country when it comes to light." Williamson told us: "I feel like I've got this man's life in my hands and I don't want to do anything to jeopardize his life, because I know him and his family and all." Williamson suggested that we meet his friend at the Cape and Sword Motel restaurant on I-20, near Six Flags Over Georgia, west of Atlanta, and he said that the two of them had already talked of this as a good meeting place. We told Williamson that we would be glad to meet with his friend but first we would like for his friend to give us a call so that we may talk with him. We gave our office phone number to Williamson. As of the writing of this memorandum, we have had no call.

7. From the information that Williamson provided, e.g., location of people involved, an attempt to meet with an Agency representative (to possibly get us involved merely by association), we believe that much of the substance of the matter could be the same as that which was reported from this office to OSS as related by Stephen Van Cleave regarding Mitch Werbell, et al. (See ATL-39-74, 28 February 1974, Resume of Contacts with Stephen Van Cleave; ATL-53-74, 9 April 1974, Stephen Van Cleave.) Mitch Werbell's operation, which has been described locally as a "machine-gun factory," is located at Powder Springs, Georgia, about ten miles north of the I-20 Cape and Sword Motel. At any rate, Mr. Williamson's friend has been given the opportunity to contact us—and we are awaiting his call.

JOHN R. PETERSON

cc: Office of Chief, DCD (D. Zeimer)
✓OSS
Services

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12-79-00

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(b)(3)

CONFIDENTIAL

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C O N F I D E N T I A L 051545Z MAR 74 STAFF

CITE DCD/MIAMI 12494

DCD/WASHINGTON

ATTN: SUPPORT BRANCH/OSS (GRANT) A-182014

SUBJ: STEVEN VAN CLEAVE, INTELLIGENCE SERVICES, LTD., ATLANTA, GEORGIA

REF: GRANT/HENNESSEY TELECON, 28 FEBRUARY, SAME SUBJECT

1. DURING THE AFTERNOON OF 21 JANUARY 1974 WE RECEIVED A TELEPHONE CALL FROM ANSELMO ALLIEGRO, 3550 ROCKERMAN ROAD, MIAMI, FLORIDA, (A CONTACT OF THE MIAMI FIELD OFFICE) WHO ADVISED US THAT AN ACQUAINTANCE OF HIS IN ATLANTA, GEORGIA, STEVEN VAN CLEAVE, WANTED TO SPEAK WITH US IN CONNECTION WITH INTELLIGENCE MATTERS CONCERNING LATIN AMERICA. WE TOLD ALLIEGRO THAT VAN CLEAVE SHOULD CONTACT OUR OFFICE IN ATLANTA; HOWEVER, ALLIEGRO SAID THAT VAN CLEAVE DIDN'T WANT TO DEAL WITH ''RECRUITERS'', RATHER HE WANTED TO SPEAK WITH A CIA OFFICER ''IN THE BUSINESS OF INTELLIGENCE COLLECTION''. WE TOLD ALLIEGRO THAT OUR ATLANTA OFFICE HAS THE SAME STATURE AS THE MIAMI FIELD OFFICE, AND THAT HE SHOULD URGE VAN CLEAVE TO CONTACT OUR REPRESENTATIVE IN ATLANTA. ALLIEGRO WOULDN'T ACCEPT THIS RESPONSE ON OUR PART AND INSISTED THAT WE AT LEAST HEAR WHAT VAN CLEAVE HAD TO SAY. FINALLY, WE AGREED TO ACCEPT A CALL FROM VAN CLEAVE SO THAT WE COULD TELL HIM TO CONTACT OUR ATLANTA REPRESENTATIVE.

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2. VAN CLEAVE CALLED US AT HIS EXPENSE FROM ATLANTA ABOUT FIVE MINUTES LATER. WE ADVISED HIM AT THE OUTSET THAT HE SHOULD SPEAK WITH BILL PANGBURN IN THE ATLANTA RESIDENT OFFICE AT HIS EARLIEST CONVENIENCE. WE EXPLAINED THAT OUR WORK FORCE IS DIVIDED GEOGRAPHICALLY RATHER THAN FUNCTIONALLY, AND THAT SINCE HE LIVES IN ATLANTA, HE MUST DEAL WITH THE ATLANTA RO. WE PROVIDED HIM WITH THE TELEPHONE NUMBER FOR THE ATLANTA RO, AND HE INDICATED THAT HE WOULD CONTACT PANGBURN THE SAME DAY. WE CALLED PANGBURN TO ADVISE HIM OF VAN CLEAVE'S INTENTION TO CONTACT HIM. WE LATER LEARNED FROM BOTH PANGBURN AND VAN CLEAVE THAT THE CONTACT WAS MADE.

3. WE PRESUMED THAT WE WOULD HAVE NO FURTHER CONTACT WITH VAN CLEAVE. HOWEVER, WE WERE MISTAKEN. VAN CLEAVE PLACED AT LEAST TWO MORE TELEPHONE CALSS TO US FROM ATLANTA (AT HIS EXPENSE), AND ONE FROM DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA. EACH TIME WE ADVISED HIM TO CALL PANGBURN RATHER THAN US. HIS RESPONSE ON THESE OCCASIONS WAS THAT HE ALREADY HAD OR INTENDED TO KEEP PANGBURN ADVISED BUT THAT HE WANTED TO KEEP US INFORMED ALSO. THE LOCAL DADE COUNTY CALL WAS MADE TO ADVISE US THAT VAN CLEAVE WAS IN MIAMI IN THE COMPANY OF TWO ARGENTINE POLICE OFFICIALS, WHOM WE COULD DEBRIEF IF WE SO DESIRED. WE AGAIN TOLD HIM THAT HE COULD REPORT TO ATLANTA.

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4. VAN CLEAVE TOLD US DURING ONE OF THE AFOREMENTIONED
CONVERSATIONS THAT HE IS ACQUAINTED WITH MITCHELL WERBELL, A12795
POWDER SPRINGS, GEORGIA, AND THAT HE HAD BEEN ''PRESSURED''
INTO TAKING WERBELL TO ARGENTINA WITH HIM IN LATE JANUARY
1974 BY OFFICIALS IN THE COCA COLA COMPANY, CORAL GABLES, A164
FLORIDA, WITH WHICH VAN CLEAVE HAD (OR HAS) A CONSULTING
CONTRACT IN CONNECTION WITH COCA COLA'S SECURITY SYSTEM IN
ARGENTINA. VAN CLEAVE ADVISED US THAT HE NEVER AGAIN WOULD
HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH WERBELL BECAUSE THE LATTER HAD ACTED
SO BADLY DURING THIS TRIP. HE TOLD US THAT WERBELL HAD
COMMENTED TO ARGENTINE OFFICIALS THAT HE (WERBELL) WAS SOME-
HOW CONNECTED WITH THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY, AND ON
A FIRST NAME BASIS WITH ''BILL'' COLBY, DCI. VAN CLEAVE TOLD
US THAT MATTERS HAD DEGENERATED TO SUCH A DEGREE THAT HE
RETURNED TO THE US WITHOUT WERBELL. (OUR MEMORY IS A BIT
FUZZY ON THE CONTENTS OF THIS DISCUSSION, BUT WE RECALL
SOMETHING TO THE EFFECT THAT WERBELL WAS INVOLVED WITH WINE,
WOMEN, AND SONG, AND VAN CLEAVE WAS AFRAID THAT WERBELL MIGHT
BE ARRESTED BY ARGENTINE POLICE BEFORE IT WAS OVER.) VAN
CLEAVE TOLD US THAT HE PERSONALLY NEVER HAS SO MUCH AS
IMPLIED A RELATIONSHIP WITH THE AGENCY TO ANY OUTSIDER.

14-00000

PAGE 4 DCD/MIAMI 12494 C O N F I D E N T I A L

5. ALTHOUGH WE HAVE NOT MET VAN CLEAVE IN PERSON, BASED UPON OUR TELEPHONE CONVERSATIONS WITH HIM HE APPEARED TO BE AN INTELLIGENT AND REASONABLE MAN. WE ARE SORRY THAT WE CANNOT PROVIDE A MORE DETAILED ACCOUNT OF OUR CONVERSATIONS WITH VAN CLEAVE, BUT AS WE MENTIONED IN REFERENCED TELECON WE DID NOT MAKE NOTES DURING THE CONVERSATIONS NOR DID WE FEEL IT NECESSARY AT THE TIME TO WRITE A MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD SINCE WE BELIEVED THAT IT WAS A NORMAL, ALBEIT COMPLEX, REFERRAL TO ANOTHER DCD OFFICE. E 2 IMPDET CL BY 013652

C O N F I D E N T I A L

SECRET E12-79-OC

Chief, Personnel Security Division, OS 22 May 1969

Director, Domestic Contact Service
(Chief, Services Division)

W[illegible]LL, Mitchell L. -- Local OSI Inquiry to DCS Miami Office for
#27[illegible] Information Concerning

??-??-084-69

1. The enclosed copy of memorandum from our Miami Office, regarding the OSI representative's inquiry for information concerning Subject, is forwarded for your records and possible future reference.

2. Any questions pertaining to this memorandum should be directed to Mrs. Virginia Thorne, Ext. 2733.

SECURITY

[illegible] FRANK YOUNG

Enclosure: As stated above

VThorne:grw

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22 May 19[illegible]

Chief, Miami Field Office

ATT : Mr. [illegible] Hogan
Director, Domestic Contact Service (Services Division)

[illegible], Mitchell L.

REF : [illegible]-69

Thank you for the information reported in the reference. The suggestion made by your office that OSI direct the request through official security channels is entirely correct. In the future, however, it will be helpful and appreciated if you will forward correspondence pertaining to security matters directly to the Security Liaison Officer, rather than to Support Staff. This saves time in getting the information to the appropriate channel for any action that may be indicated.

SECURITY

JAMES R. [illegible]

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[illegible]:ERV

SECRET

SECRET

F-12-7

Director, Domestic Contact Service

15 May 1969

ATTN : 00S

MIM-004-69

Chief, Miami Field Office

Local OSI Inquiry Regarding Information on Mitchell L. Werbell

1. On 15 May 1969, Special Agent Dave Plouman, local OSI representative,
USAF, visited the Miami Field Office to solicit any information we might
have regarding Mitchell L. Werbell who apparently is undergoing a security
clearance check as the result of presently being employed by a company
with a government contract.

2. Werbell was an unsolicited contact of this office beginning in
1959 and he reached peak notoriety in November 1967 as a result of his
involvement in the Rolando Masferrer trial in connection with the abortive
Haitian invasion. John Greaney, OOS was in Miami at the time to oversee
Agency interests.

3. Plouman in contacting other US Government agencies locally
including the US Attorney's Office somehow received an indication that CIA
had information on Werbell; thus Plouman's visit to the Miami Field Office.

4. It was indicated to Plouman, who is known personally by several
members of this staff, that we knew of Werbell and that on occasion he
had reported unsolicited information. It was suggested, however, that
Plouman direct his request officially through channels via OSI's agency
liaison officer in Washington.

5. This is for background and is being forwarded at the suggestion
of local CIA Security.

JUSTIN F. GLEICHAUF

EHogan:pmw

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